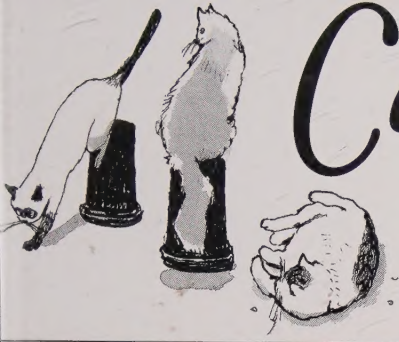

Cats of the Louvre

by TAIYO MATSUMOTO

CATS OF THE LOUVRE

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VIZ MEDIA

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SPRING

THIS HERE IS LEONARDO DA VINCI'S MOST FAMOUS PORTRAIT...
...THE *MONA LISA*.

TO CALL IT THE BEST-KNOWN PAINTING IN THE WORLD WOULD HARDLY BE AN EXAGGERATION.
SNAP
...IT HAS LONG FASCINATED THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND HISTORIANS ALIKE.
SNAP
ALSO KNOWN AS *LA GIOCONDA*...
My third showing of the Mona Lisa *today...*

ILLUSTRATION ON PREVIOUS SPREAD:
The Funeral Procession of Love, Louvre permanent collection

Les Funérailles de l'Amour, circa 1580. Attributed to Henri Lerambert (known to Fontainebleau 1568–1570—Paris 1608), collaborator of Antoine Caron. Paris, Musée du Louvre, Department of Paintings

© RMN-Grand Palais (Musée du Louvre) / Jean-Gilles Berizzi

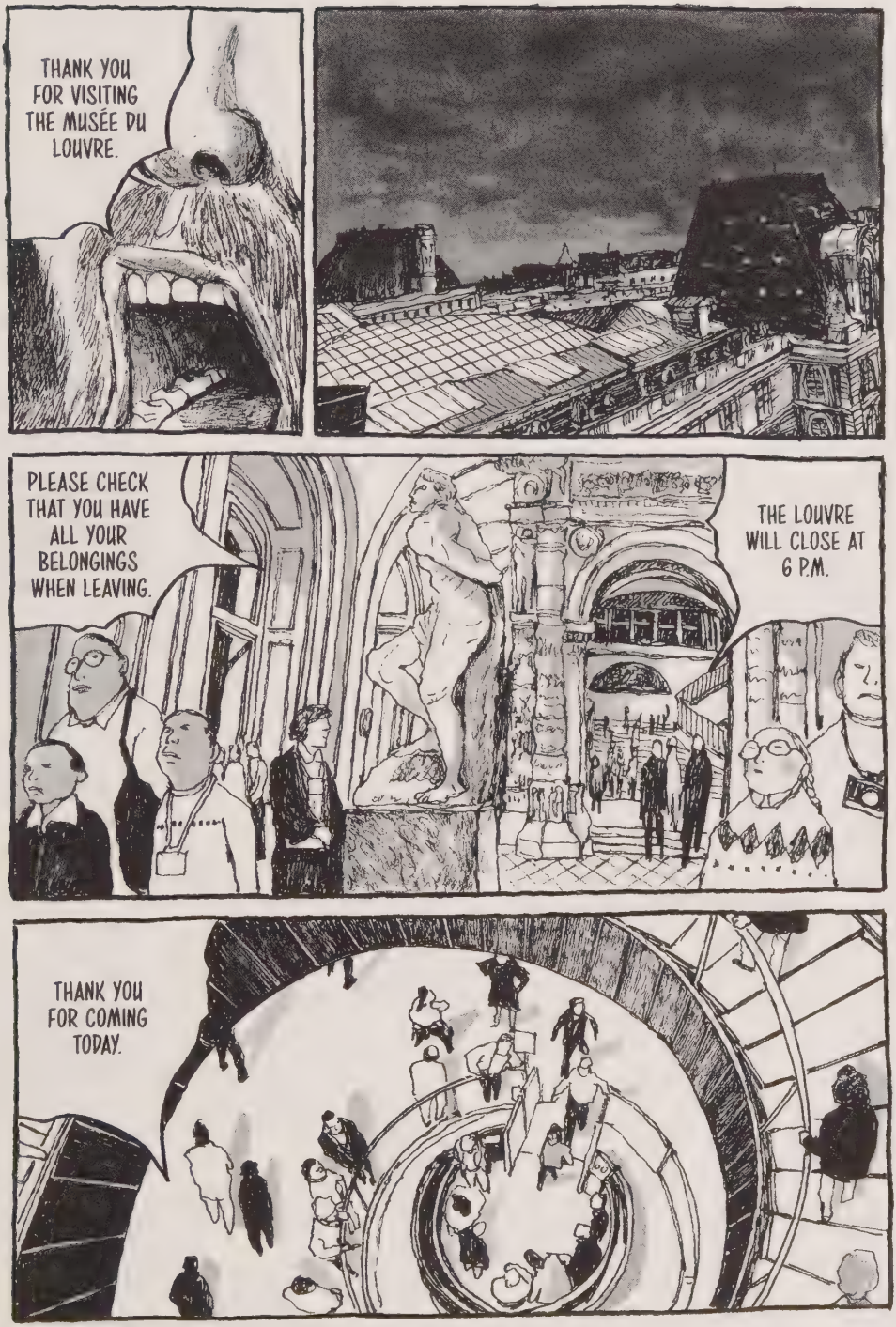
CHAPTER I

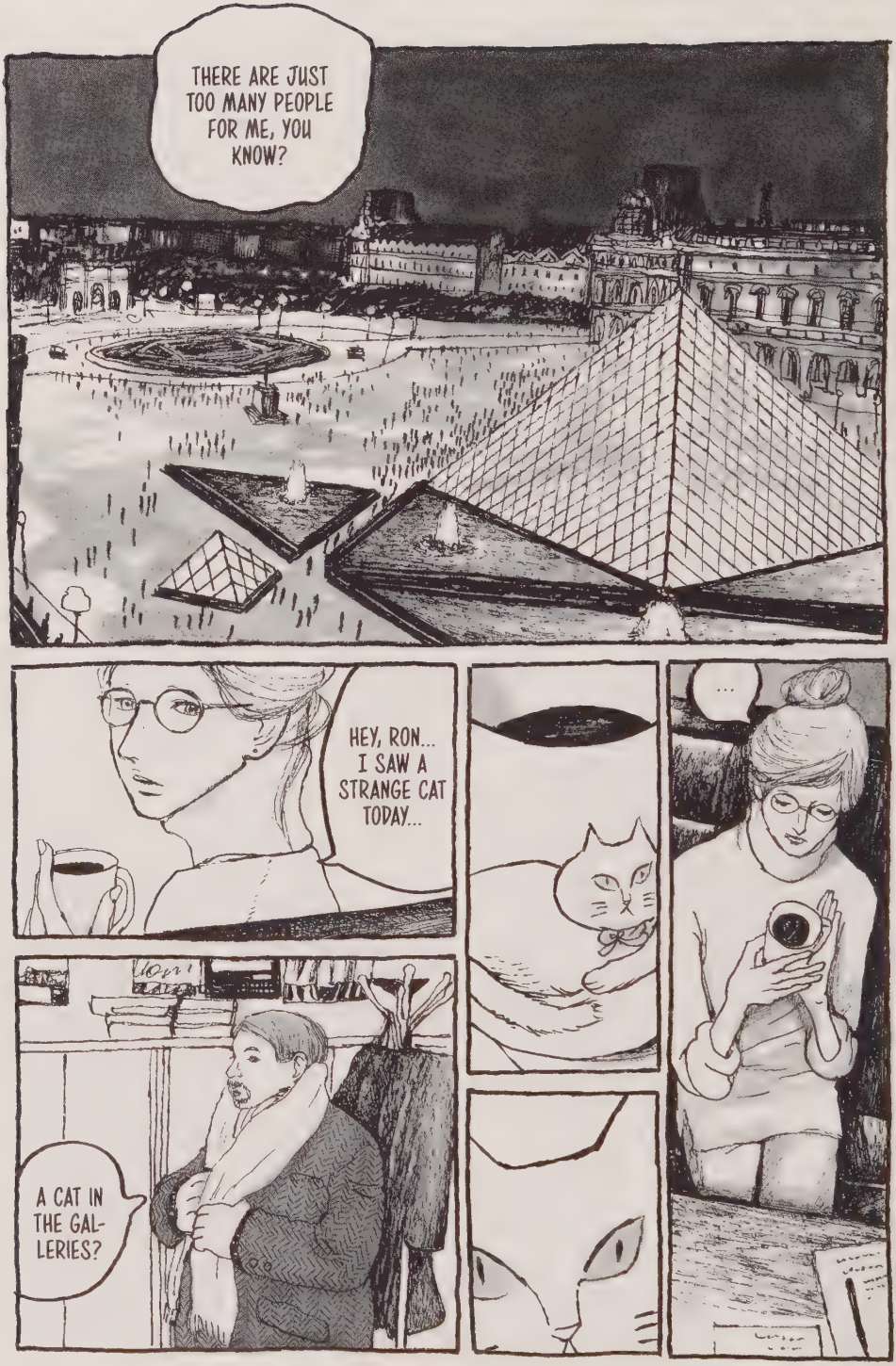
The Secret of the Attic

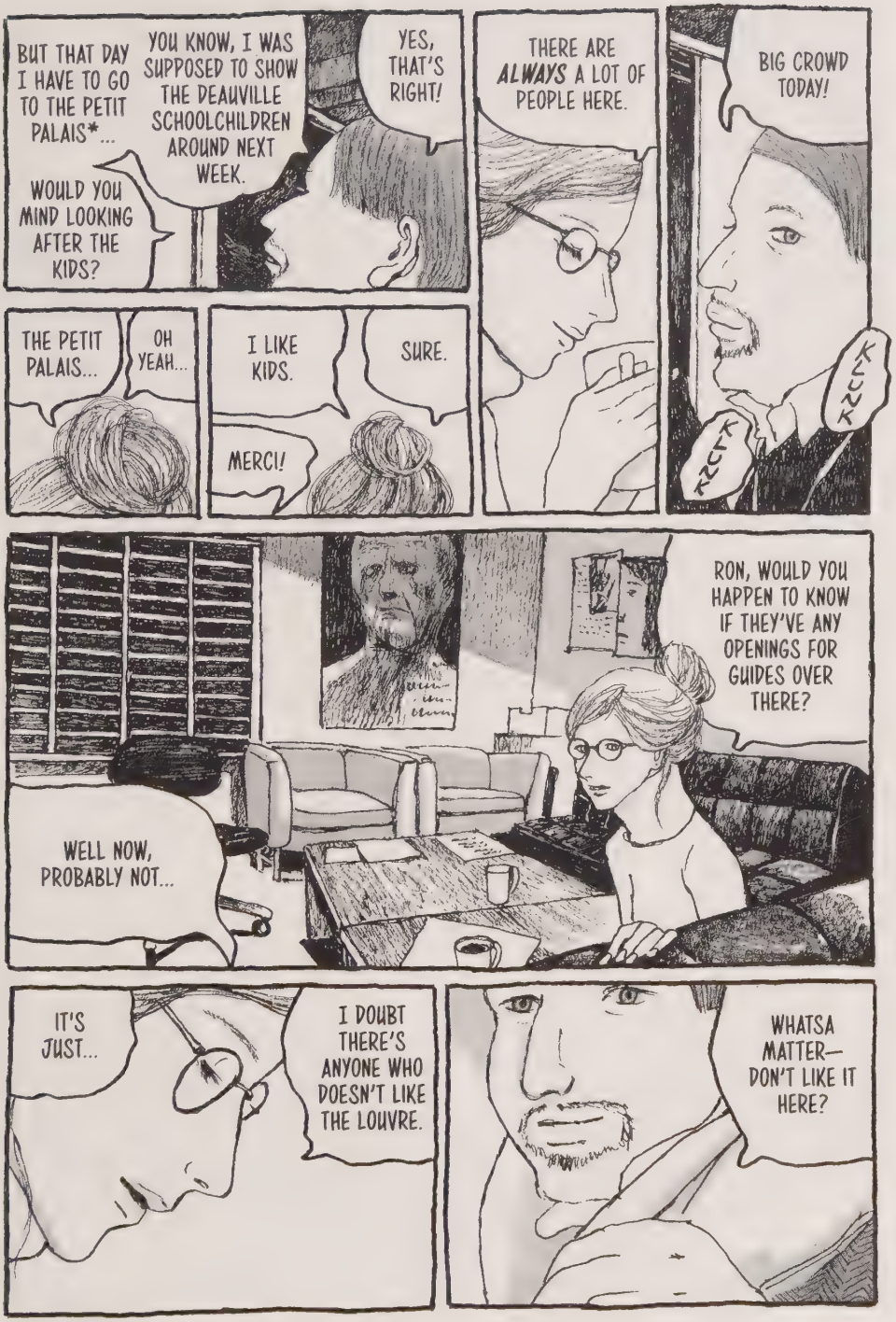
A cat?
UH... NO...
SOMETHING WRONG, MISS?
IT'S NOTHING...
?
Did I imagine it?
No, it was definitely a cat...
NEXT, DAVID'S CORONATION OF NAPOLEON.

I wonder why this painting is all they want to see.
THEN IN 1516, AT THE INVITATION OF FRANCIS I, DA VINCI AND THE *MONA LISA* MOVED TO FRANCE.
These tourists never have much time anyway.
IN 1913, ABOUT TWO YEARS LATER...
?!
AND THOUGH THE *MONA LISA* WAS STOLEN IN 1911...
But that's just how it is.
SNAP
The winged ibex amphora handle or...
...Corot's The Bridge at Narni or...
There are so many other works I could show them.

THE MUSÉE DU LOUVRE WILL CLOSE AT 6 P.M.
PHOD
YES, RON, ANOTHER DAY DONE.
BABYLONE
ANOTHER DAY DONE, CÉCILE— GOOD WORK!

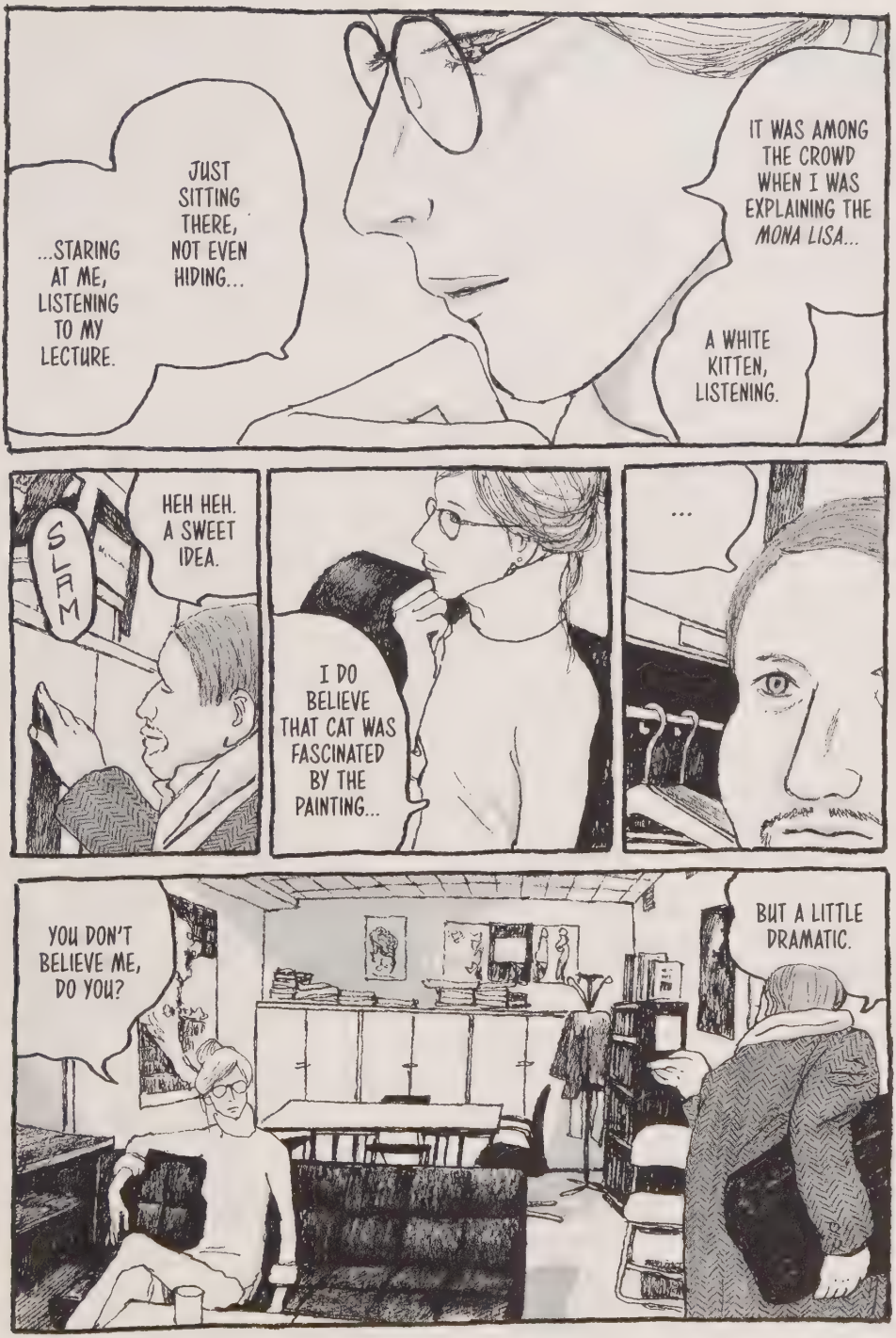

THANK YOU FOR VISITING THE MUSÉE DU LOUVRE.
PLEASE CHECK THAT YOU HAVE ALL YOUR BELONGINGS WHEN LEAVING.
THE LOUVRE WILL CLOSE AT 6 P.M.
THANK YOU FOR COMING TODAY.


THERE ARE JUST TOO MANY PEOPLE FOR ME, YOU KNOW?
HEY, RON... I SAW A STRANGE CAT TODAY...
A CAT IN THE GAL-LERIES?
...



*Petit Palais = an art museum in Paris's eighth arrondissement

HA HA HA
HA HA
Look, this Photo ...
...
HA HA HA

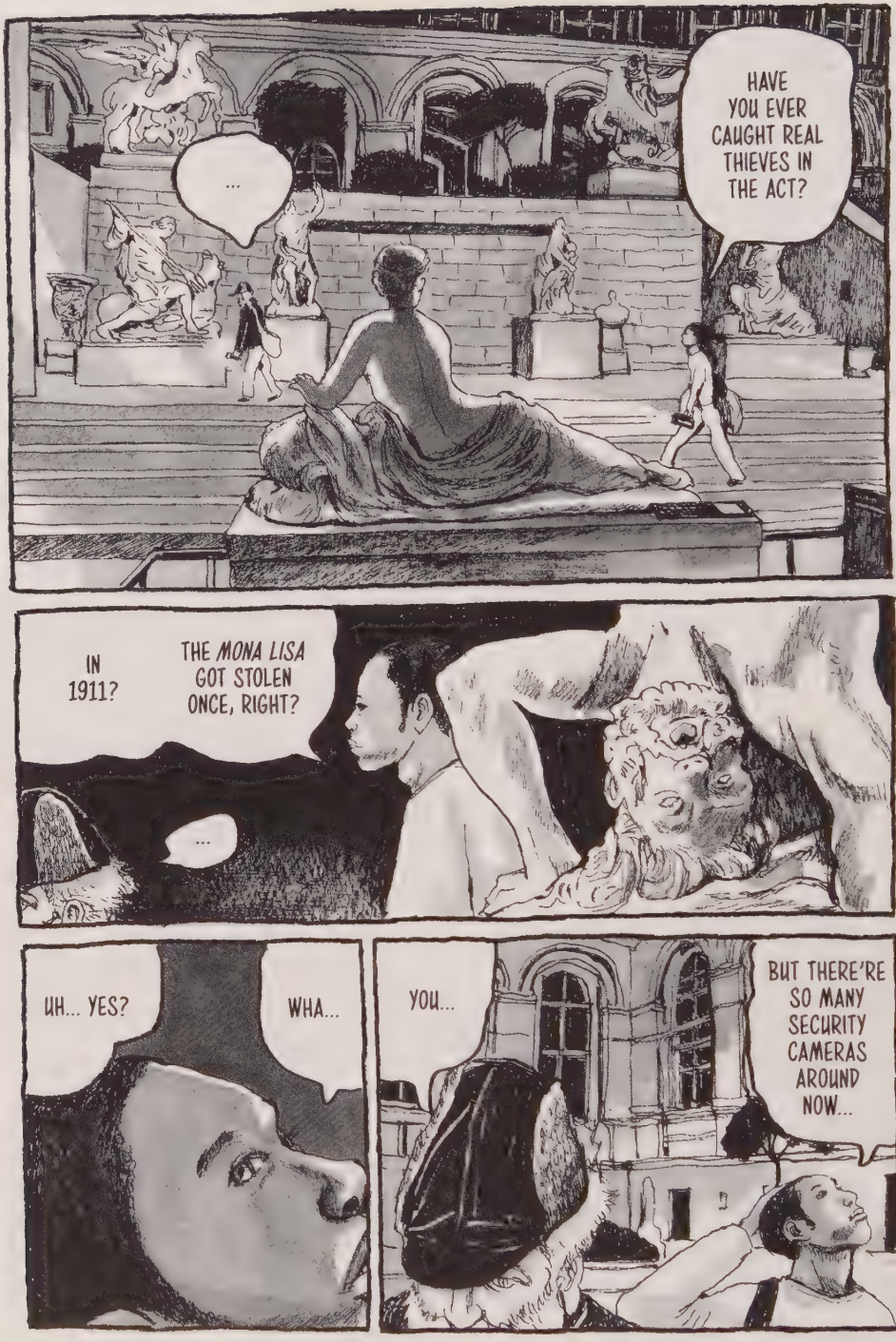

IT WAS AMONG THE CROWD WHEN I WAS EXPLAINING THE *MONA LISA*...
A WHITE KITTEN, LISTENING.
JUST SITTING THERE, NOT EVEN HIDING...
...STARING AT ME, LISTENING TO MY LECTURE.
HEH HEH. A SWEET IDEA.
SLAM
I DO BELIEVE THAT CAT WAS FASCINATED BY THE PAINTING...
...
BUT A LITTLE DRAMATIC.
...
YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME, DO YOU?

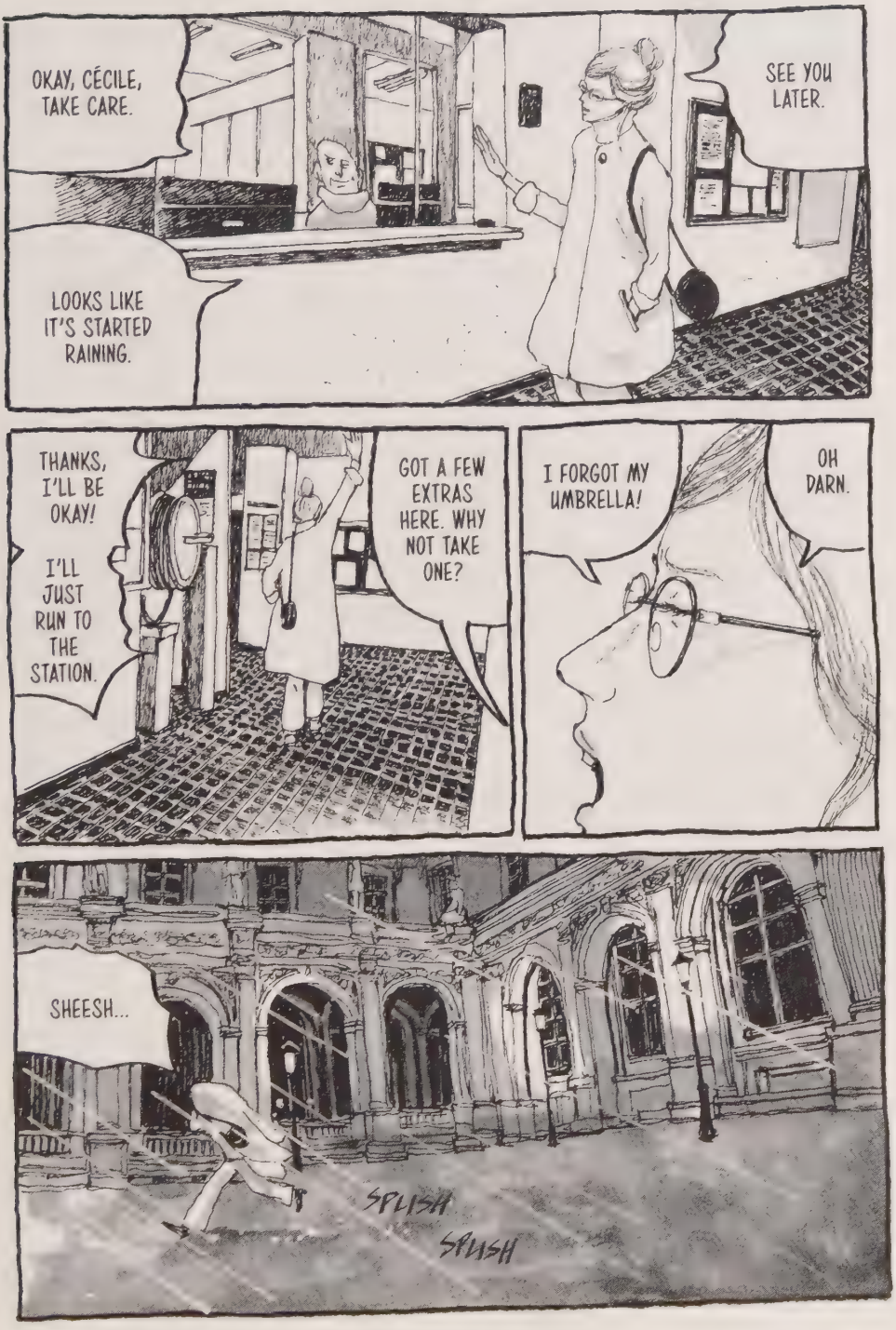
...BUT HE'S NOT A BAD FELLOW.
HE'S A LITTLE ODD...
...
KIND OF BORN AND RAISED IN THE LOUVRE.

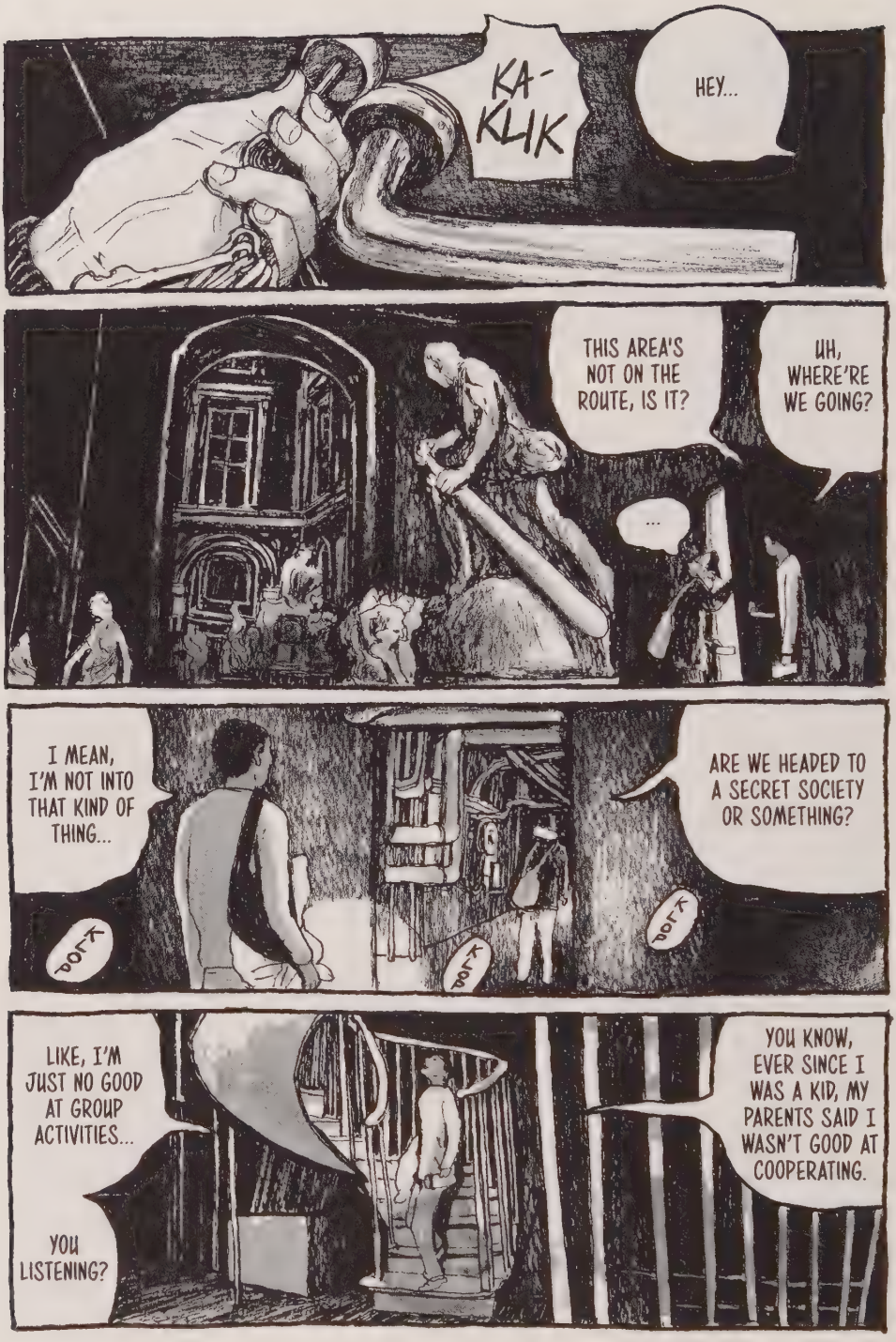
HEY, YOU MUST BE THE NEW KID.
HELLO...
MARCEL?
GOOD EVENING, PATRICK.
YOU'LL BE DOING THE ROUNDS WITH MARCEL.
PATRICK NASRI.
MY NAME'S PATRICK.

BEING IN A MUSEUM AT NIGHT... IT FEELS LIKE WE'RE IN THE BELLY OF A WHALE OR SOMETHING.
HEH HEH.

I HEAR YOU'VE BEEN WORKING HERE FOR GENERATIONS, MONSIEUR MARCEL.
STEPHAN SAID NO ONE IS MORE KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT THE LOUVRE.
...
HMM.
...


HAVE YOU EVER CAUGHT REAL THIEVES IN THE ACT?
...
THE *MONA LISA* GOT STOLEN ONCE, RIGHT?
IN 1911?
...
WHA...
UH... YES?
YOU...
BUT THERE'RE SO MANY SECURITY CAMERAS AROUND NOW...

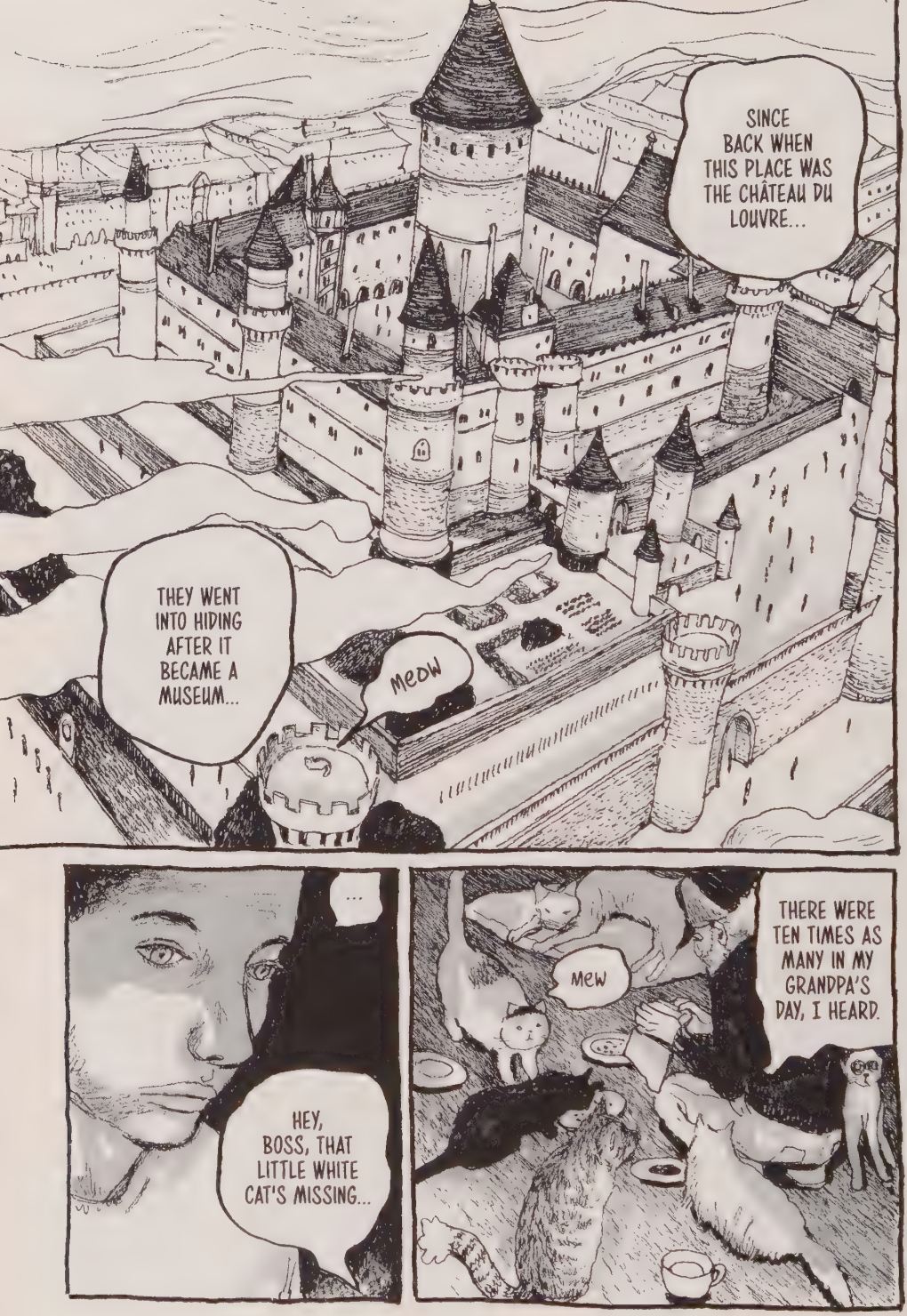

OKAY, CÉCILE, TAKE CARE.
SEE YOU LATER.
LOOKS LIKE IT'S STARTED RAINING.
THANKS, I'LL BE OKAY!
I'LL JUST RUN TO THE STATION.
GOT A FEW EXTRAS HERE. WHY NOT TAKE ONE?
I FORGOT MY UMBRELLA!
OH DARN.
SHEESH...
SPLISH
SPLISH


KA-KLIK
HEY...
THIS AREA'S NOT ON THE ROUTE, IS IT?
UH, WHERE'RE WE GOING?
...
I MEAN, I'M NOT INTO THAT KIND OF THING...
ARE WE HEADED TO A SECRET SOCIETY OR SOMETHING?
DOK
KLOP
DOK
LIKE, I'M JUST NO GOOD AT GROUP ACTIVITIES...
YOU LISTENING?
YOU KNOW, EVER SINCE I WAS A KID, MY PARENTS SAID I WASN'T GOOD AT COOPERATING.

HAVE YOU EVER HEARD THEM? THE VOICES OF THE PAINTINGS.
?
THE PAINTINGS...?
NEVER MIND.
IT'S NOTHING.
DID YOU SAY THE VOICES OF THE PAINTINGS?
JUST FORGET ABOUT IT.

HEY... BET YOU'RE PRETTY HUNGRY...
MEOW
MEOW
SORRY I'M LATE. GOT A NEW GUY HERE...
MEOW
MEOW

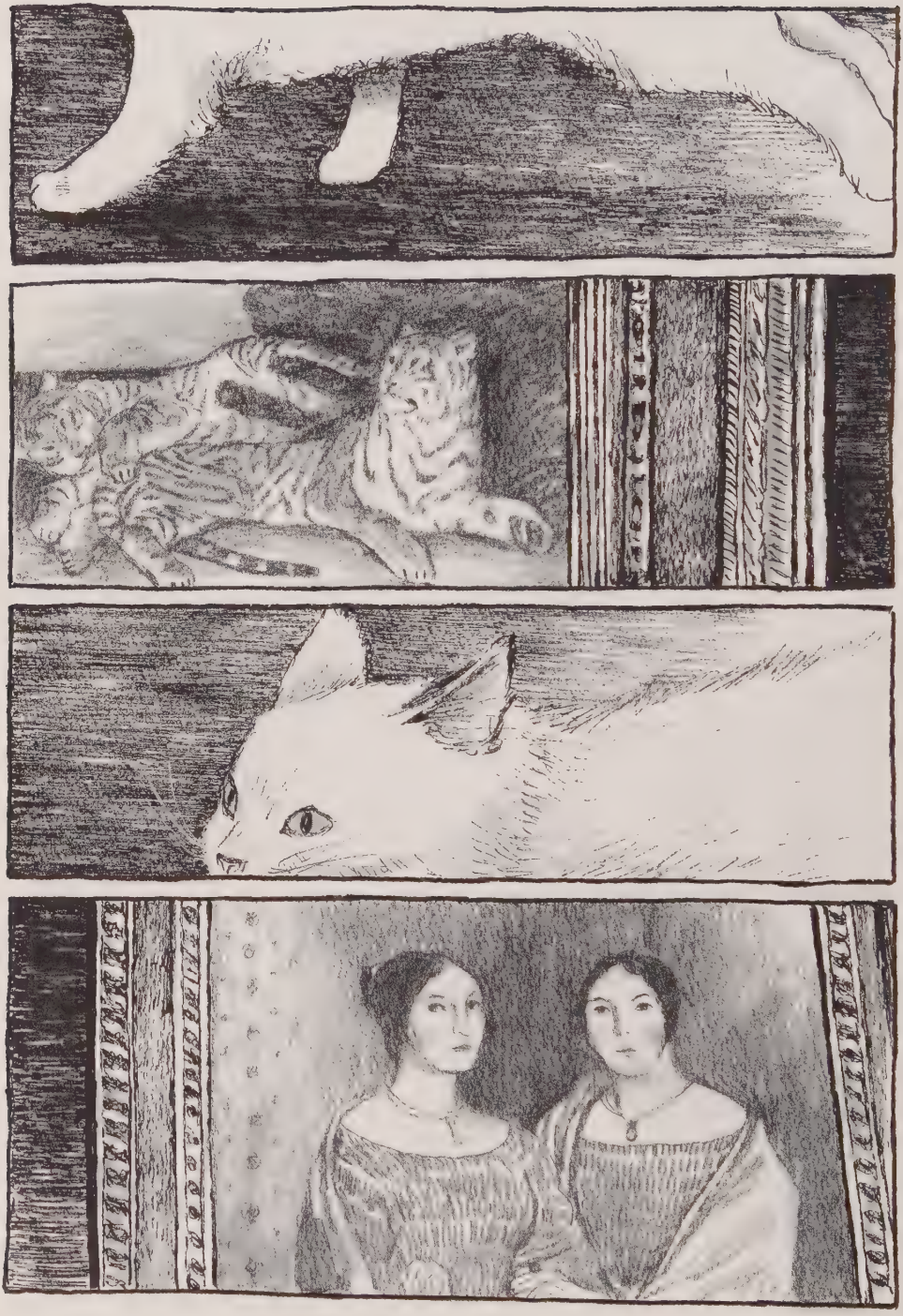
CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
He's ignoring me.
?!


SINCE BACK WHEN THIS PLACE WAS THE CHÂTEAU DU LOUVRE...
THEY WENT INTO HIDING AFTER IT BECAME A MUSEUM...
MEOW

...
HEY, BOSS, THAT LITTLE WHITE CAT'S MISSING...

MEW
THERE WERE TEN TIMES AS MANY IN MY GRANDPA'S DAY, I HEARD.

ONLY THE NIGHT WATCH STAFF.
DOES EVERYONE KNOW ABOUT THIS?
BON APPÉTIT!
WHAT'S THIS?
THE CATS...
MEOW...
HOW YOU DOING, BON-PAPA?
KEEPING ALL THESE CATS HERE.
I'M PRETTY SURE THIS ISN'T ALLOWED...
THEY'VE BEEN LIVING UP HERE FOR GENERATIONS.

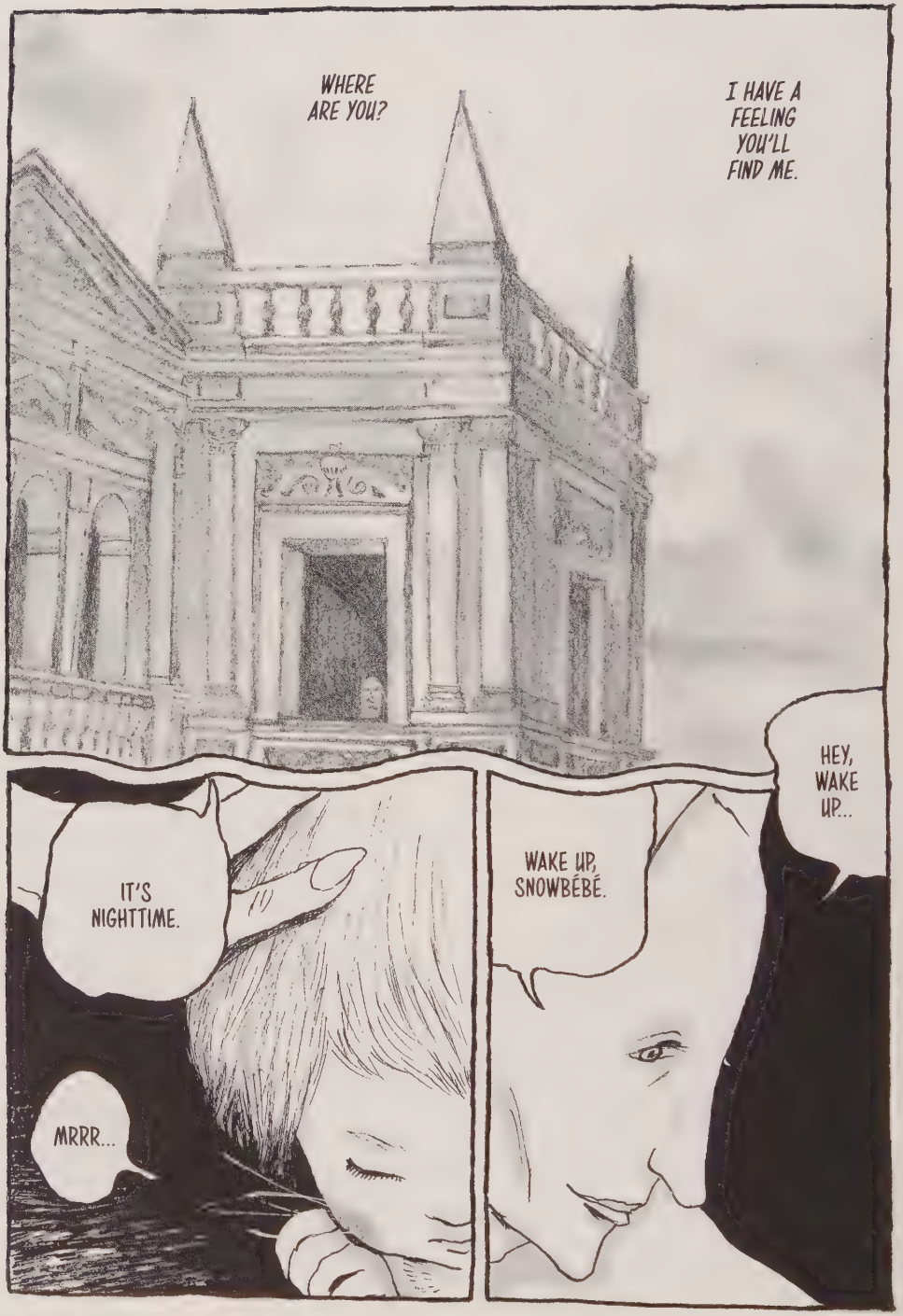


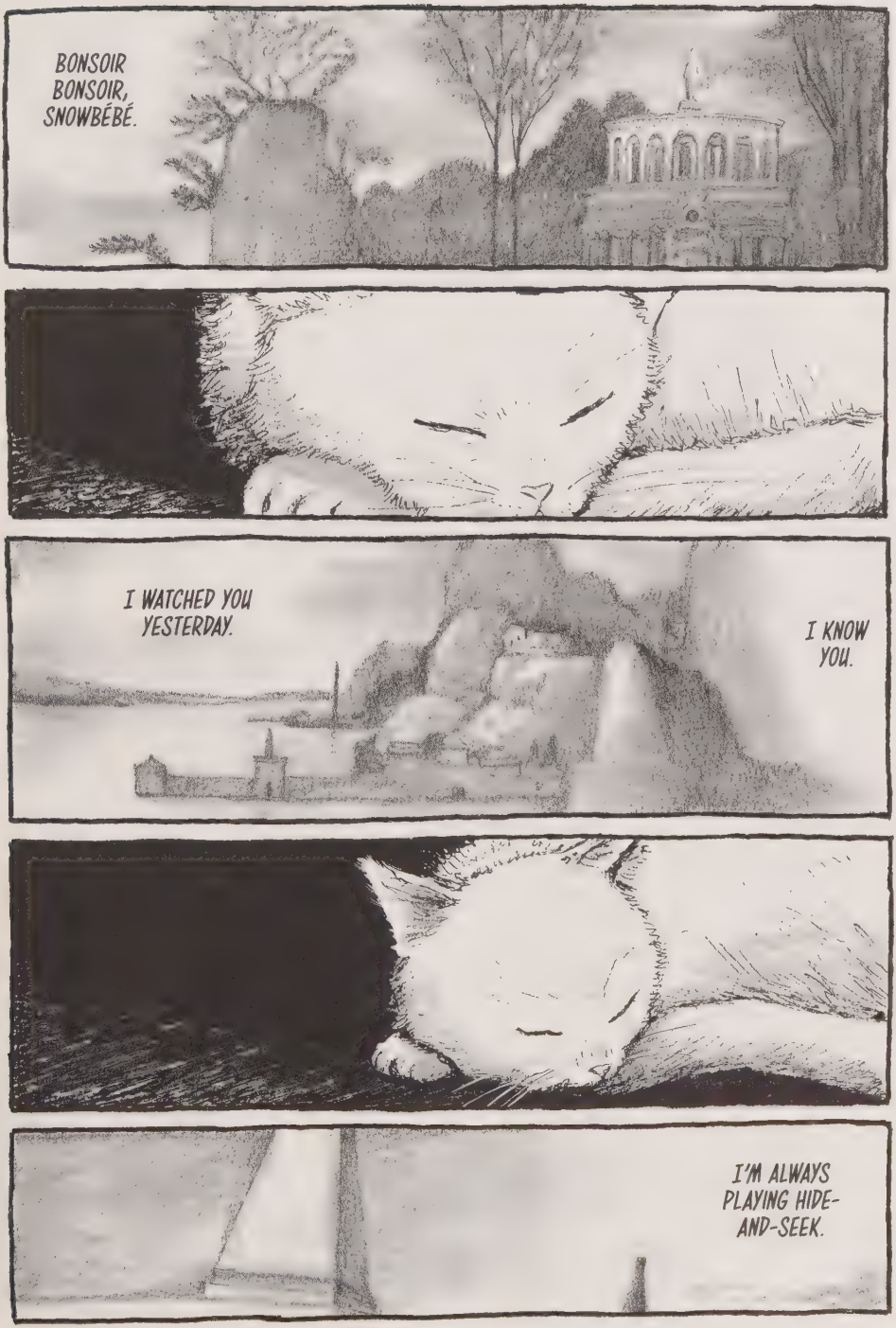
THERE'S BEEN SOME GOSSIP AMONG THE CLEANING STAFF...
THAT LITTLE GUY WAS OUT THERE WITH THE VISITORS TODAY, RIGHT?
YOU'VE GOTTA KEEP YOUR EYE ON THAT ONE. GOT THAT, BOSS?
PURRRR
IF THEY FIND YOU, THEY'LL SEND YOU PACKING, THE WHOLE LOT OF YOU.
GOT THAT?

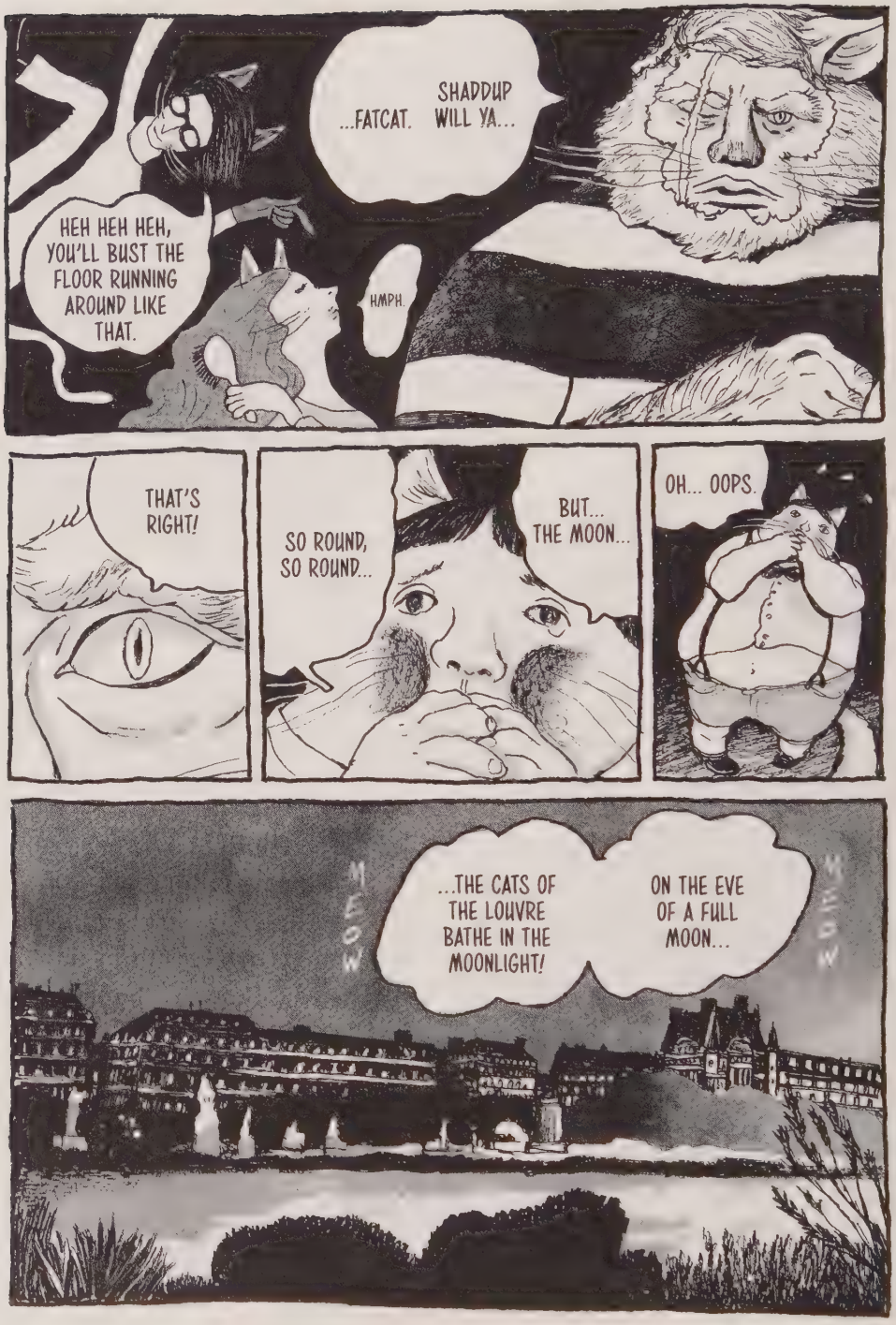
CHAPTER 2

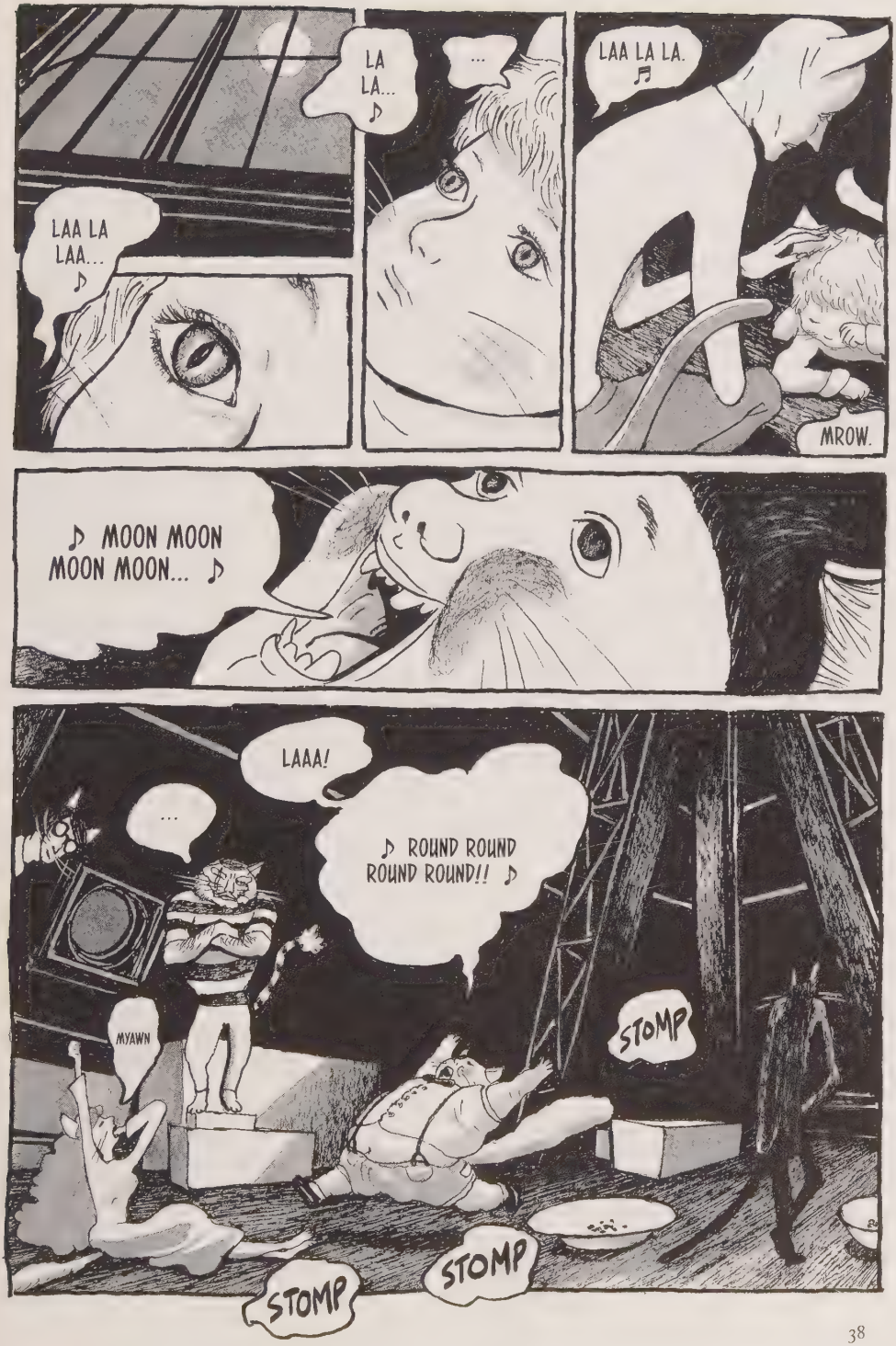
The Secret of the Full Moon

▲ Lamassus, Assyrian deity with human head, bull body and wings (Near Eastern Antiquities)

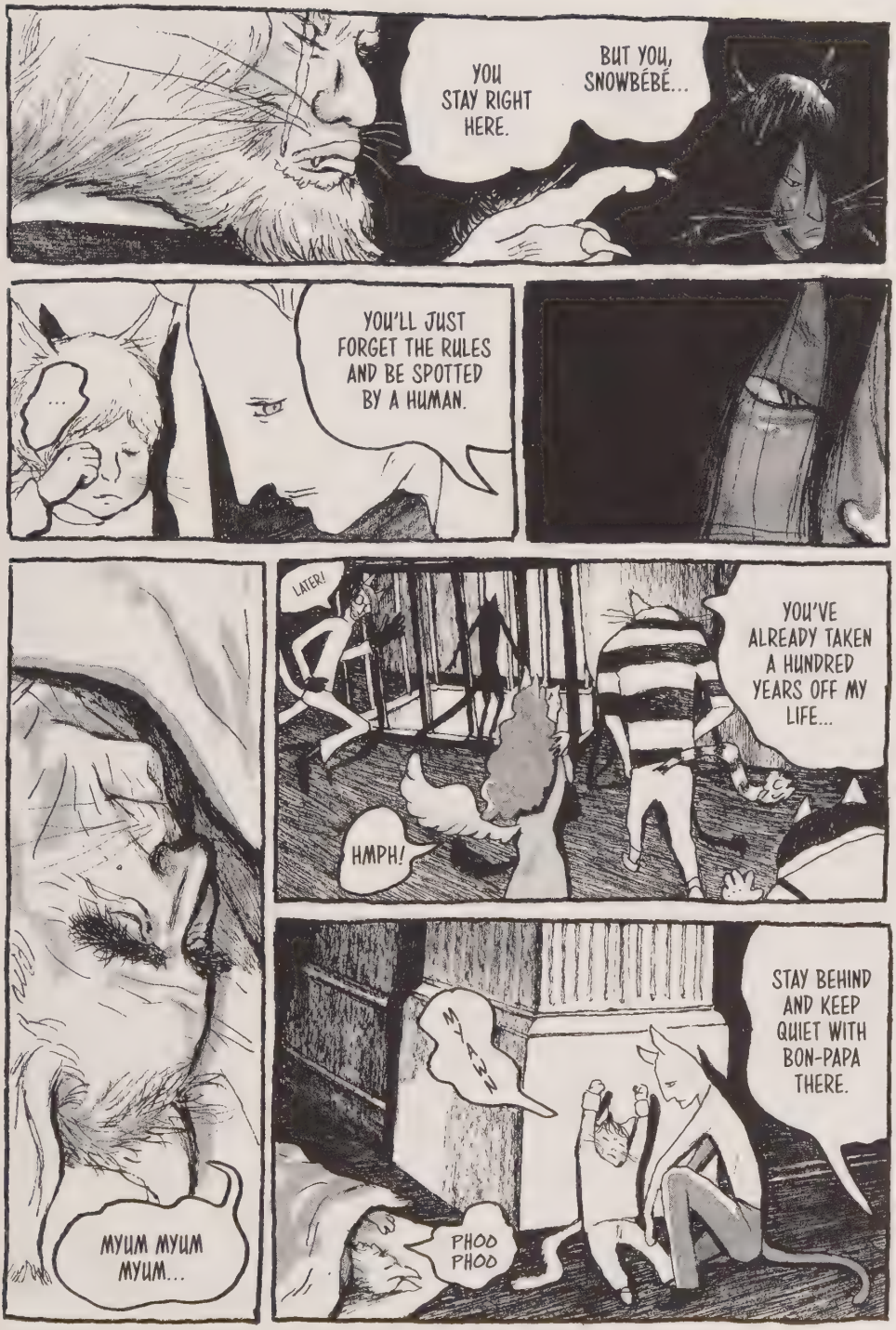

WHERE ARE YOU?
I HAVE A FEELING YOU'LL FIND ME.
IT'S NIGHTTIME.
MRRR...
WAKE UP, SNOWBÉBÉ.
HEY, WAKE UP...

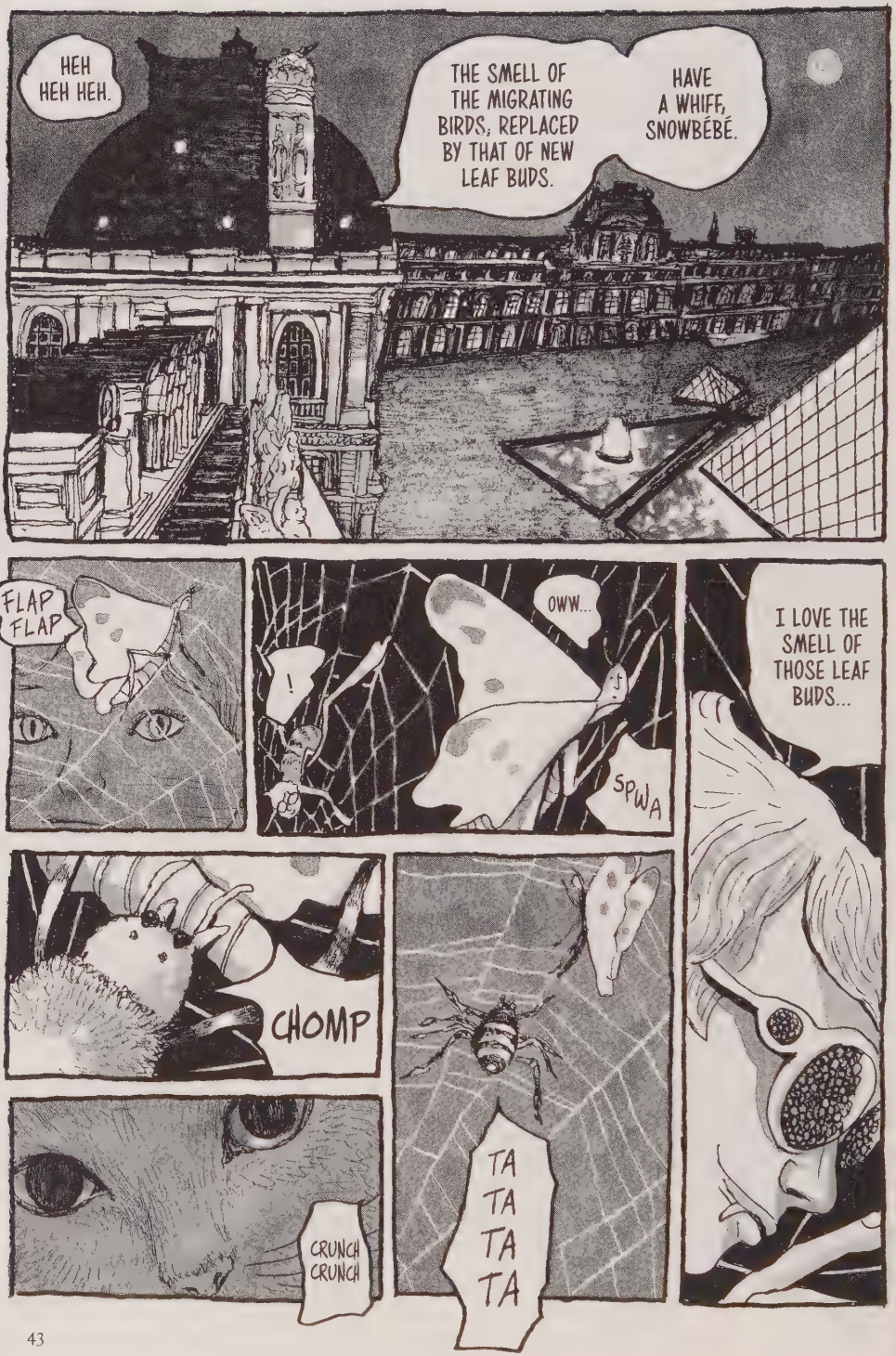

BONSOIR BONSOIR, SNOWBÉBÉ.
I WATCHED YOU YESTERDAY.
I KNOW YOU.
I'M ALWAYS PLAYING HIDE-AND-SEEK.

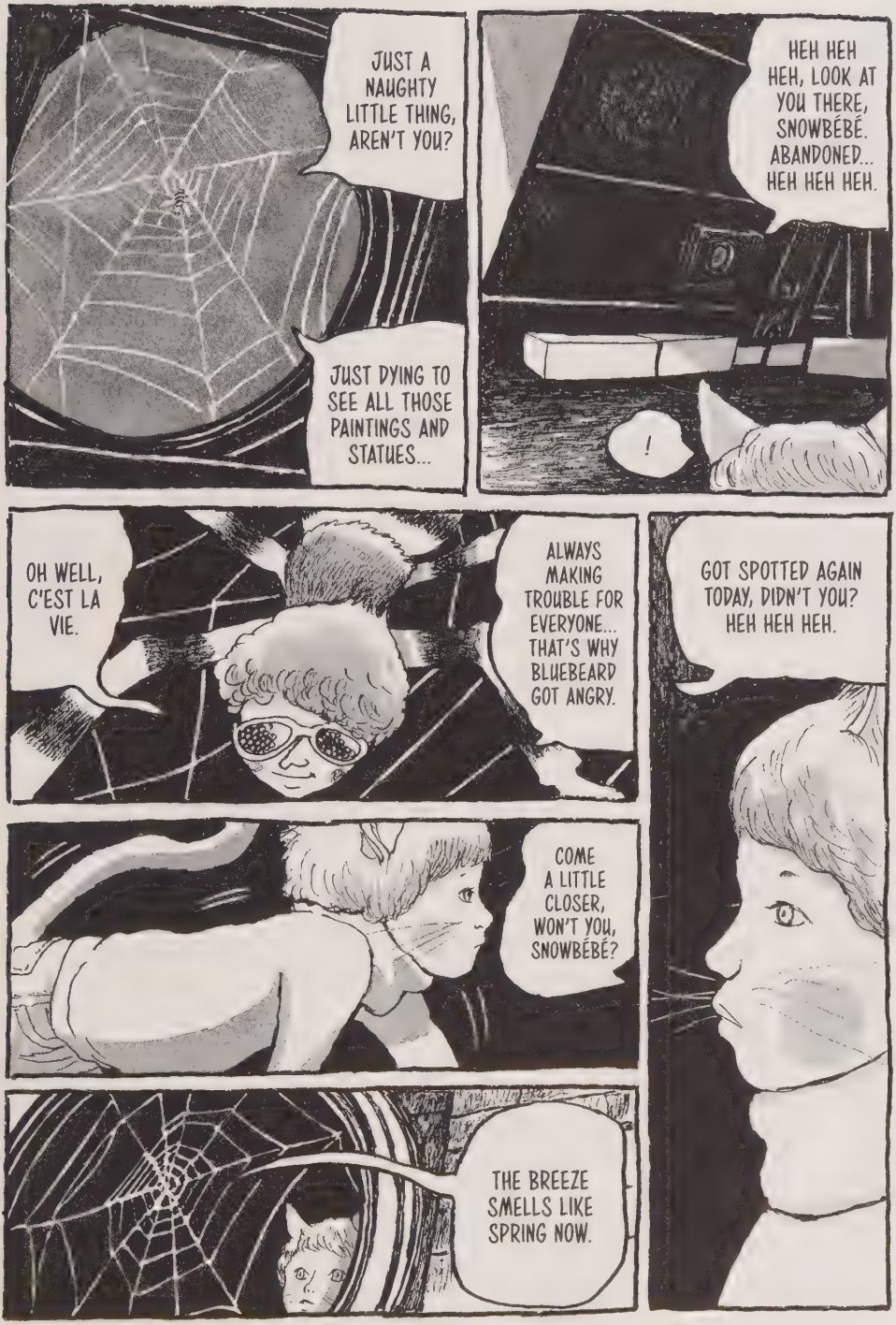

HEH HEH HEH, YOU'LL BUST THE FLOOR RUNNING AROUND LIKE THAT.
HMPH.
...FATCAT.
SHADDUP WILL YA...
THAT'S RIGHT!
SO ROUND, SO ROUND...
BUT... THE MOON...
OH... OOPS.
MEOW
...THE CATS OF THE LOUVRE BATHE IN THE MOONLIGHT!
ON THE EVE OF A FULL MOON...
MEOW

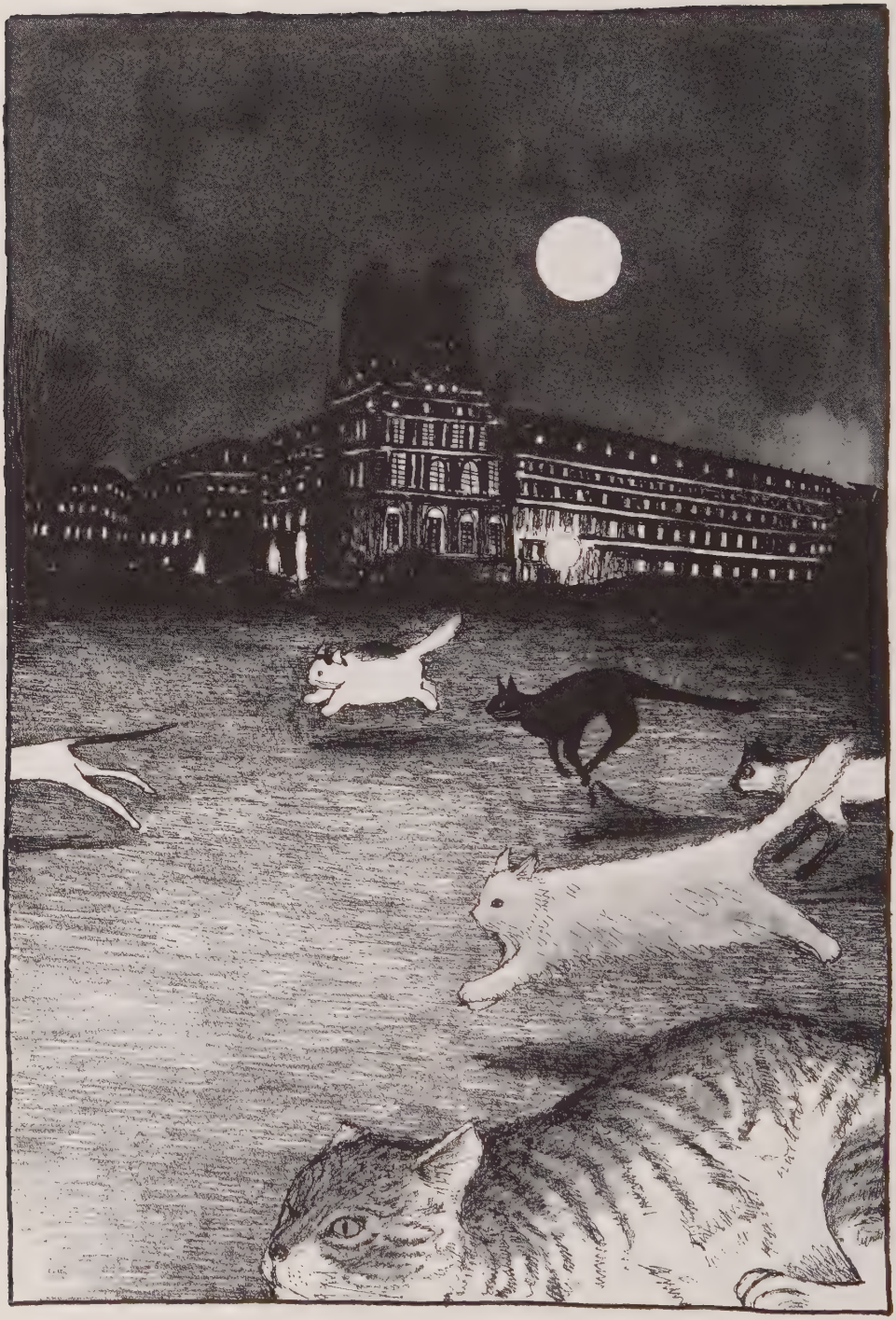

LAA LA LAA... ♪
LA LA... ♪
...
LAA LA LA. ♫
MROW.
♪ MOON MOON MOON MOON... ♪
LAAA!
...
♪ ROUND ROUND ROUND ROUND!! ♪
MYAWN
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP

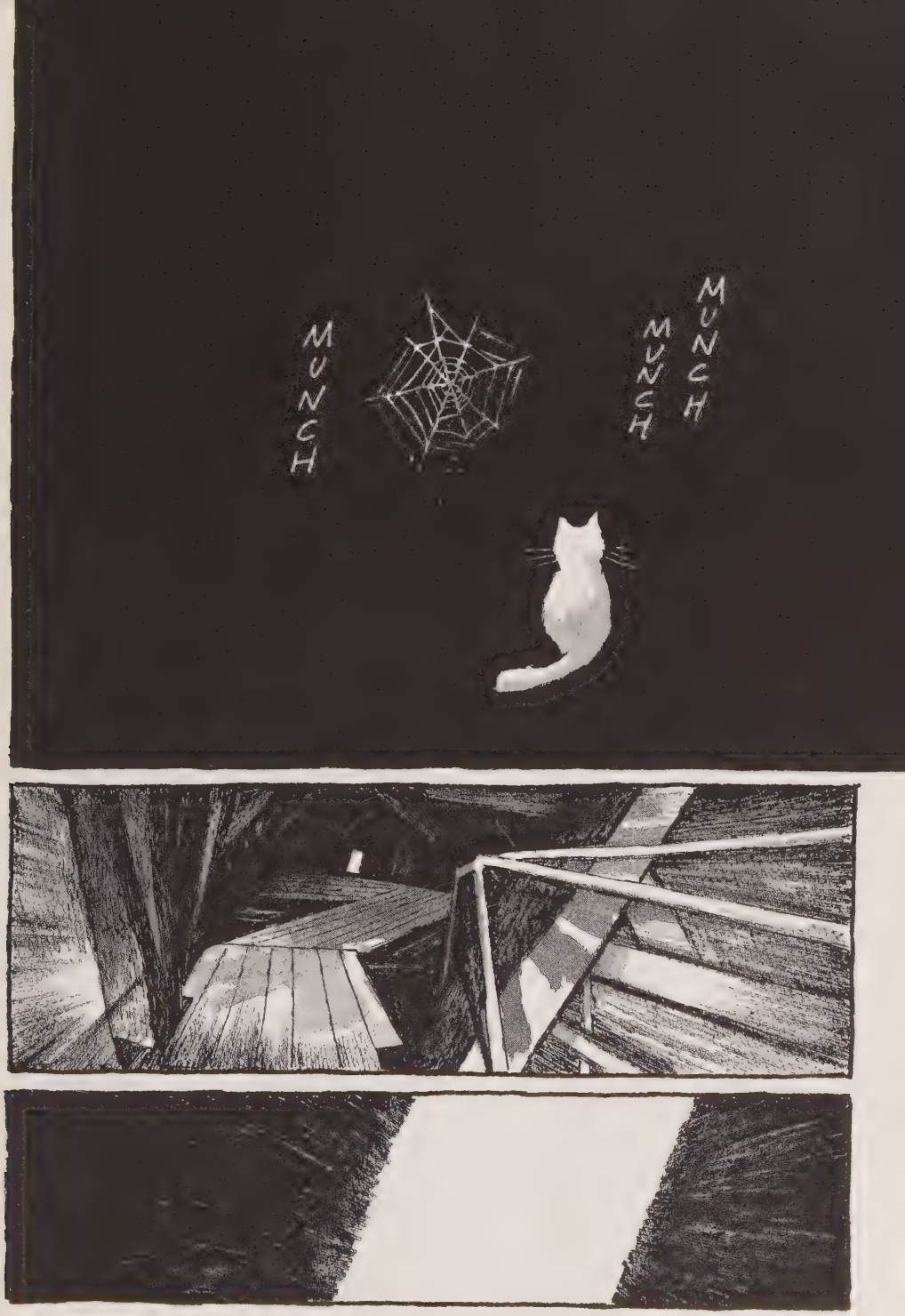
SORRY, SNOWBÉBÉ... BE RIGHT BACK.
I'LL BRING YOU A BUNCH OF FORGET-ME-NOTS.
MERCI.
POOT
MYUM MYUM.

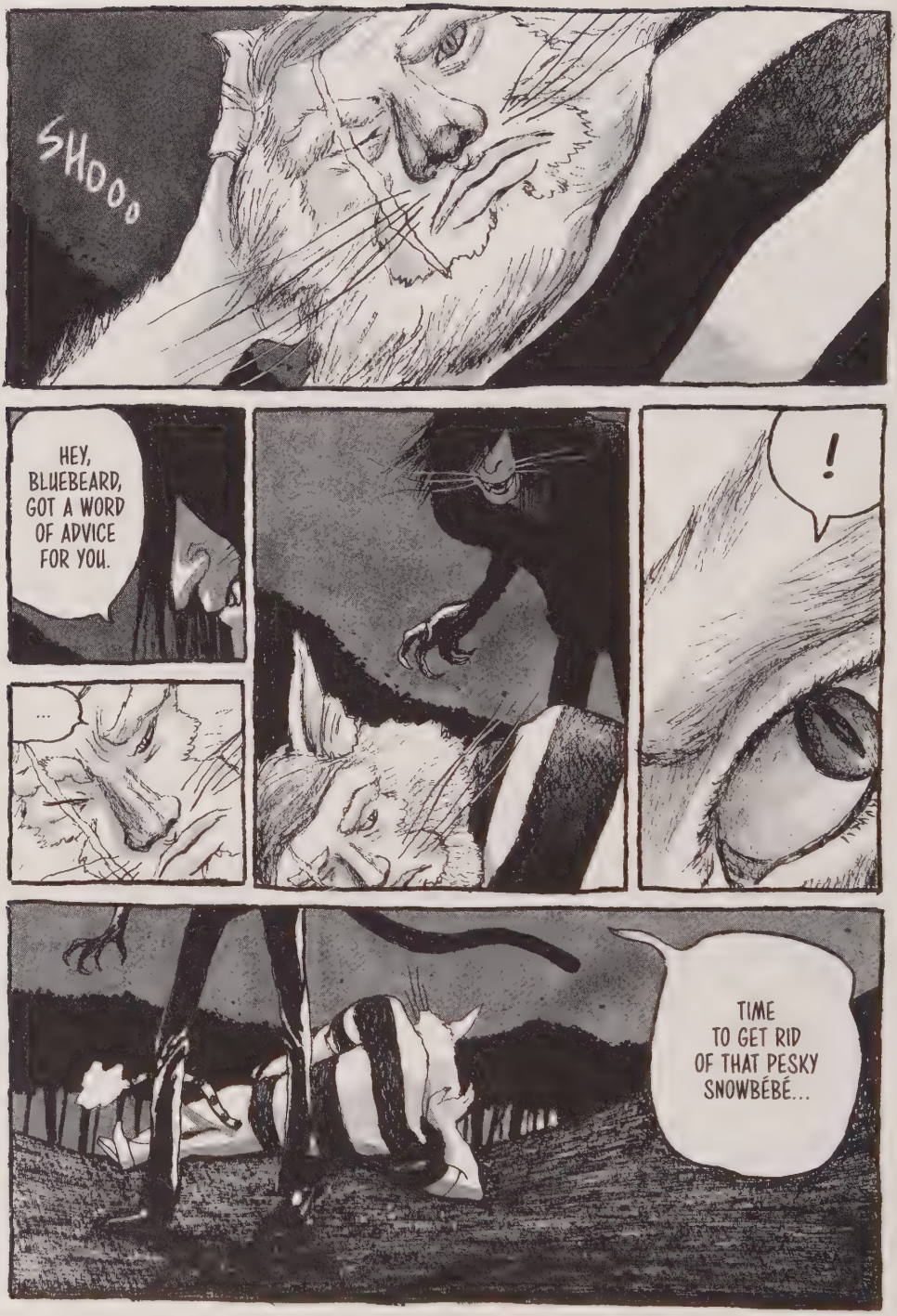

YOU STAY RIGHT HERE.
BUT YOU, SNOWBÉBÉ...
...
YOU'LL JUST FORGET THE RULES AND BE SPOTTED BY A HUMAN.
LATER!
HMPH!
YOU'VE ALREADY TAKEN A HUNDRED YEARS OFF MY LIFE...
MYUM MYUM MYUM...
MYAH
PHOO PHOO
STAY BEHIND AND KEEP QUIET WITH BON-PAPA THERE.

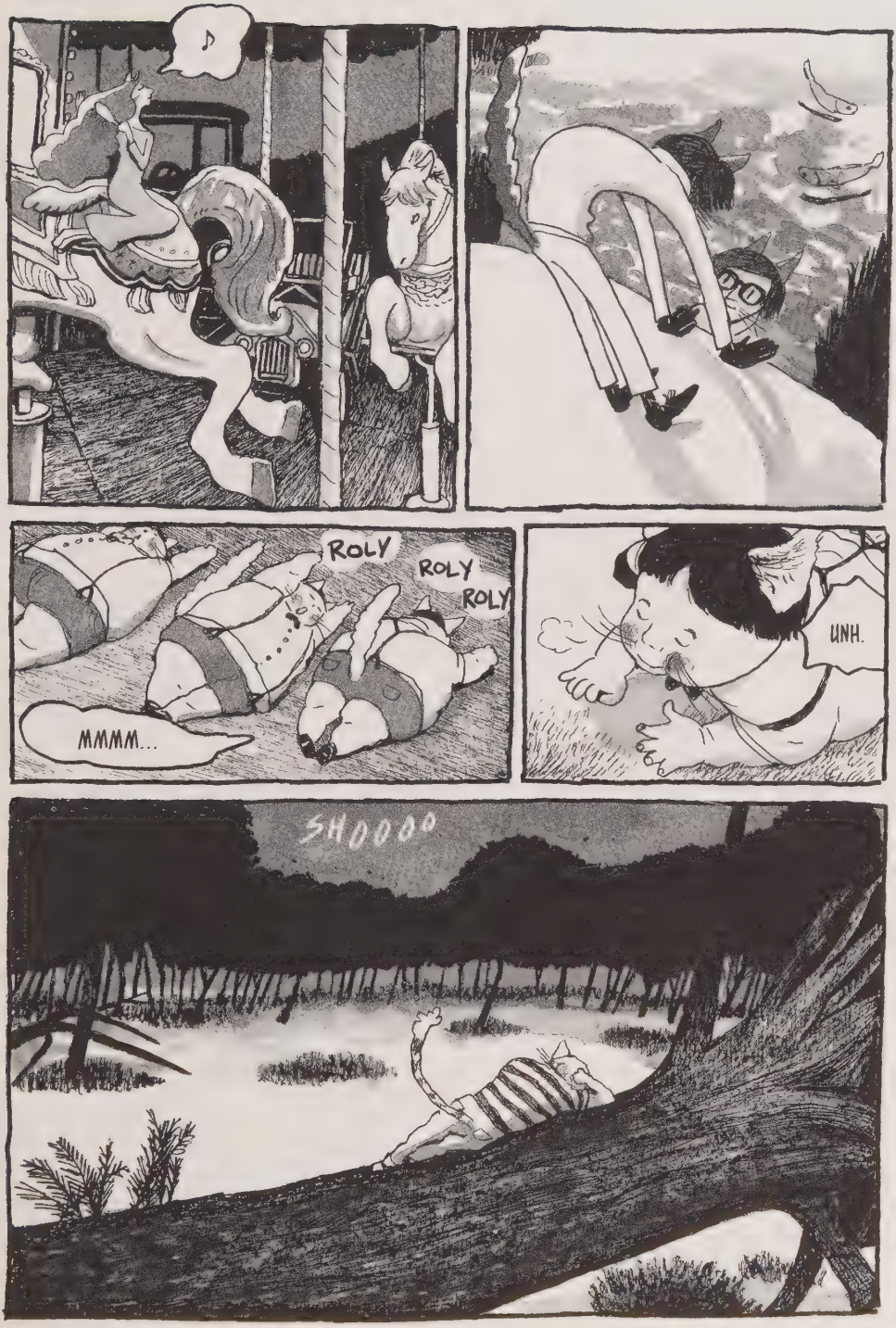

HEH HEH HEH.
THE SMELL OF THE MIGRATING BIRDS, REPLACED BY THAT OF NEW LEAF BUDS.
HAVE A WHIFF, SNOWBÉBÉ.
FLAP FLAP
!
OWW...
SPWA
I LOVE THE SMELL OF THOSE LEAF BUDS...
CHOMP
CRUNCH CRUNCH
TA TA TA TA

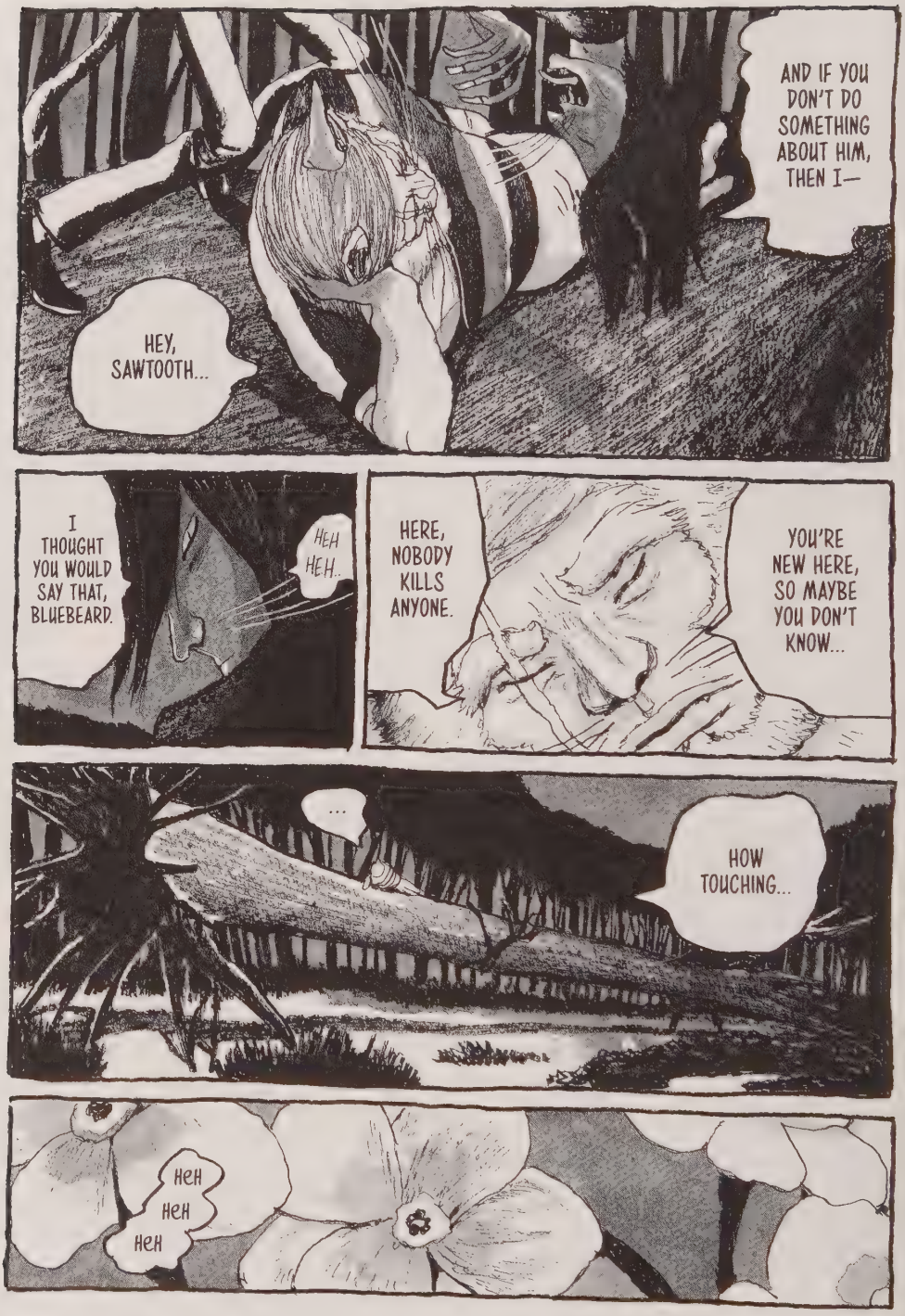

JUST A NAUGHTY LITTLE THING, AREN'T YOU?
JUST DYING TO SEE ALL THOSE PAINTINGS AND STATUES...
HEH HEH HEH, LOOK AT YOU THERE, SNOWBÉBÉ. ABANDONED... HEH HEH HEH.
!
OH WELL, C'EST LA VIE.
ALWAYS MAKING TROUBLE FOR EVERYONE... THAT'S WHY BLUEBEARD GOT ANGRY.
GOT SPOTTED AGAIN TODAY, DIDN'T YOU? HEH HEH HEH.
COME A LITTLE CLOSER, WON'T YOU, SNOWBÉBÉ?
THE BREEZE SMELLS LIKE SPRING NOW.

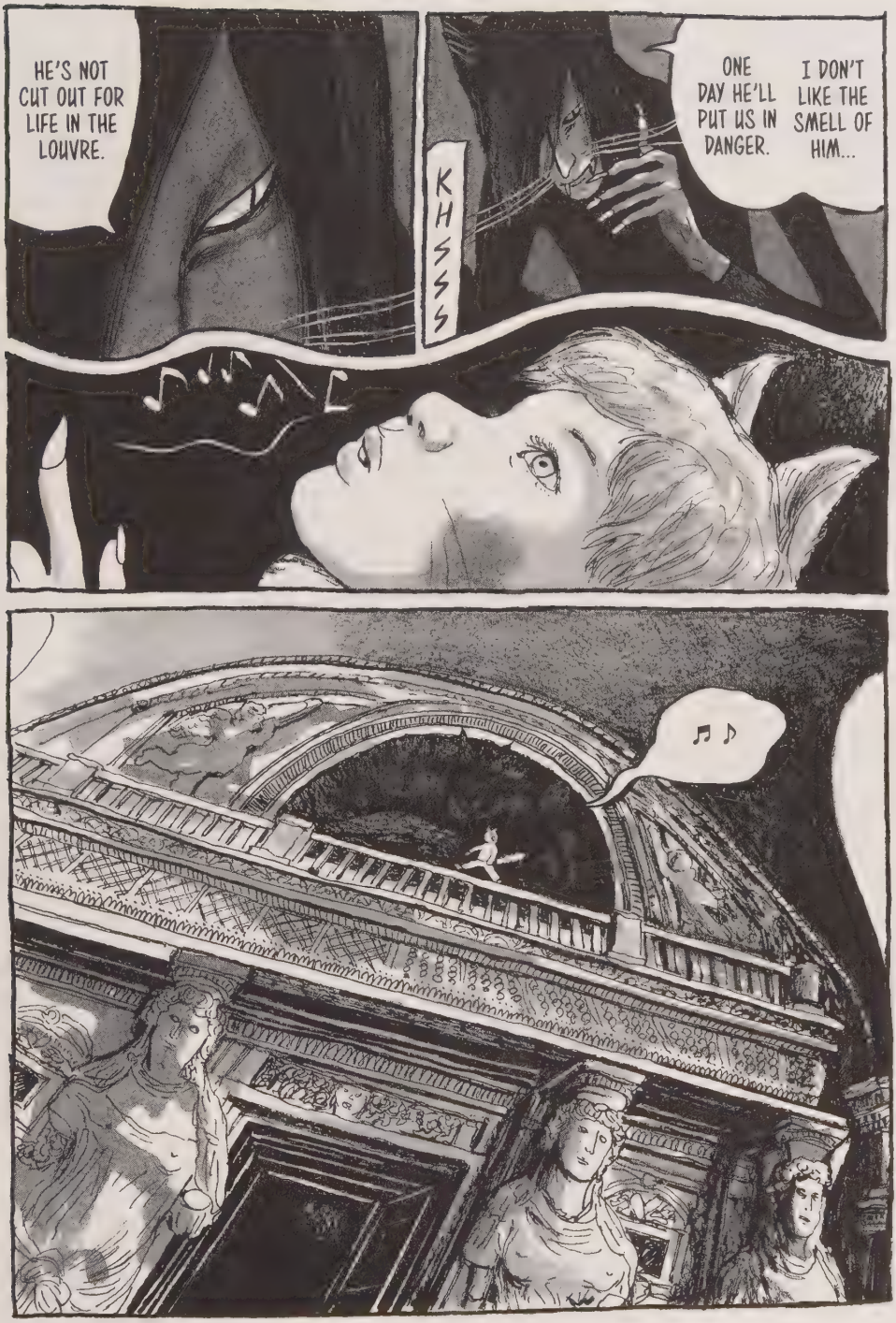



MUNCH
MUNCH
MUNCH
MUNCH

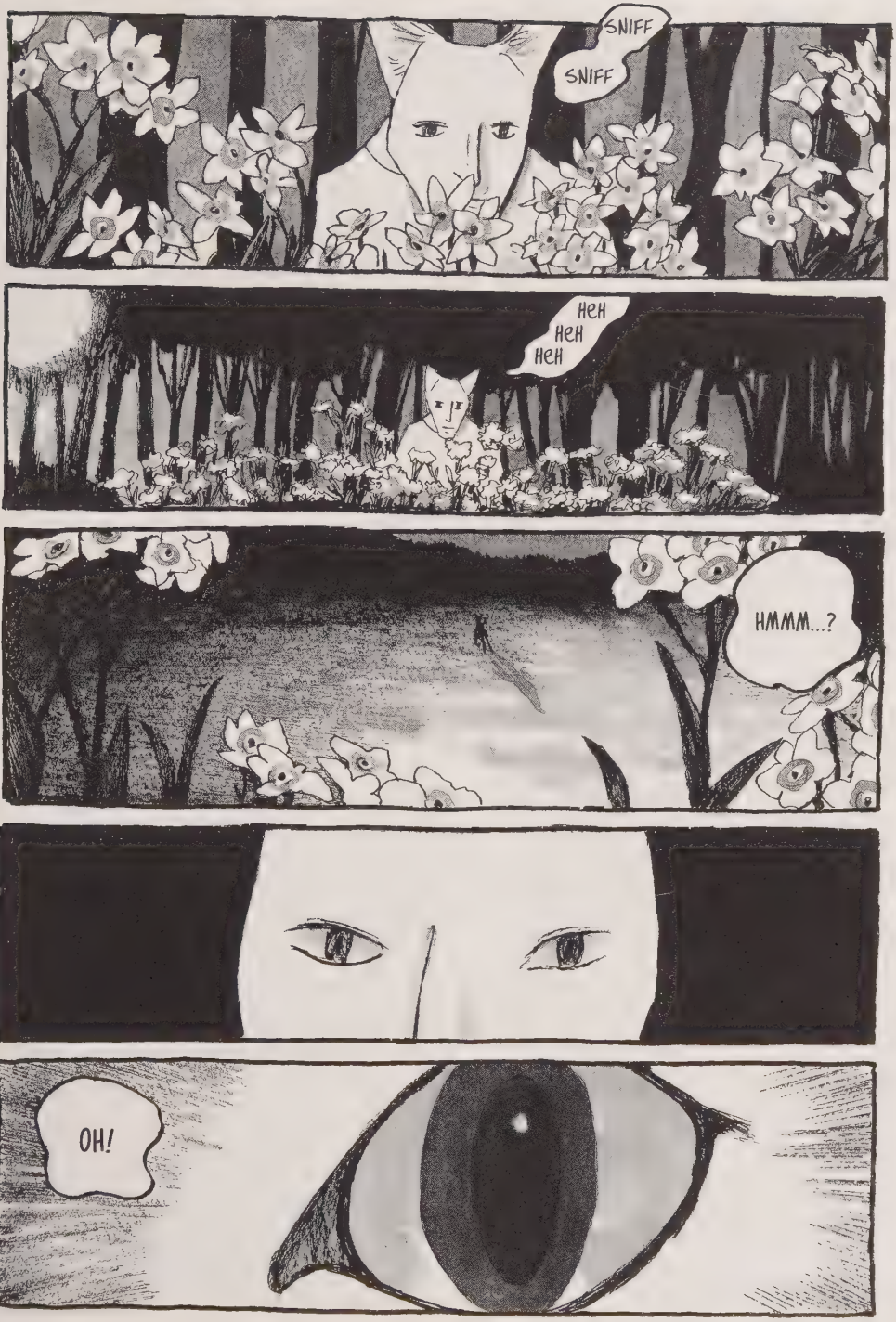

SHOOO
HEY, BLUEBEARD, GOT A WORD OF ADVICE FOR YOU.
...
!
TIME TO GET RID OF THAT PESKY SNOWBÉBÉ...


♪
ROLY
ROLY
ROLY
MMMM...
UNH.
SHOOOO


HEY, SAWTOOTH...
AND IF YOU DON'T DO SOMETHING ABOUT HIM, THEN I—
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD SAY THAT, BLUEBEARD.
HEH HEH..
HERE, NOBODY KILLS ANYONE.
YOU'RE NEW HERE, SO MAYBE YOU DON'T KNOW...
...
HOW TOUCHING...
HEH HEH HEH


HE'S NOT CUT OUT FOR LIFE IN THE LOUVRE.
KHSSS
ONE DAY HE'LL PUT US IN DANGER.
I DON'T LIKE THE SMELL OF HIM...
♫ ♪

WOOF
A DOG !!


SNIFF
SNIFF
HEH
HEH
HEH
HMMM...?
OH!

HFF
HFF
HFF
HFF
MYAAA
HFF

HFF
HFF
!!
RUN, FATCAT, RUN!
THUD
THERE'S A DOG!

VREEEET
WOOF

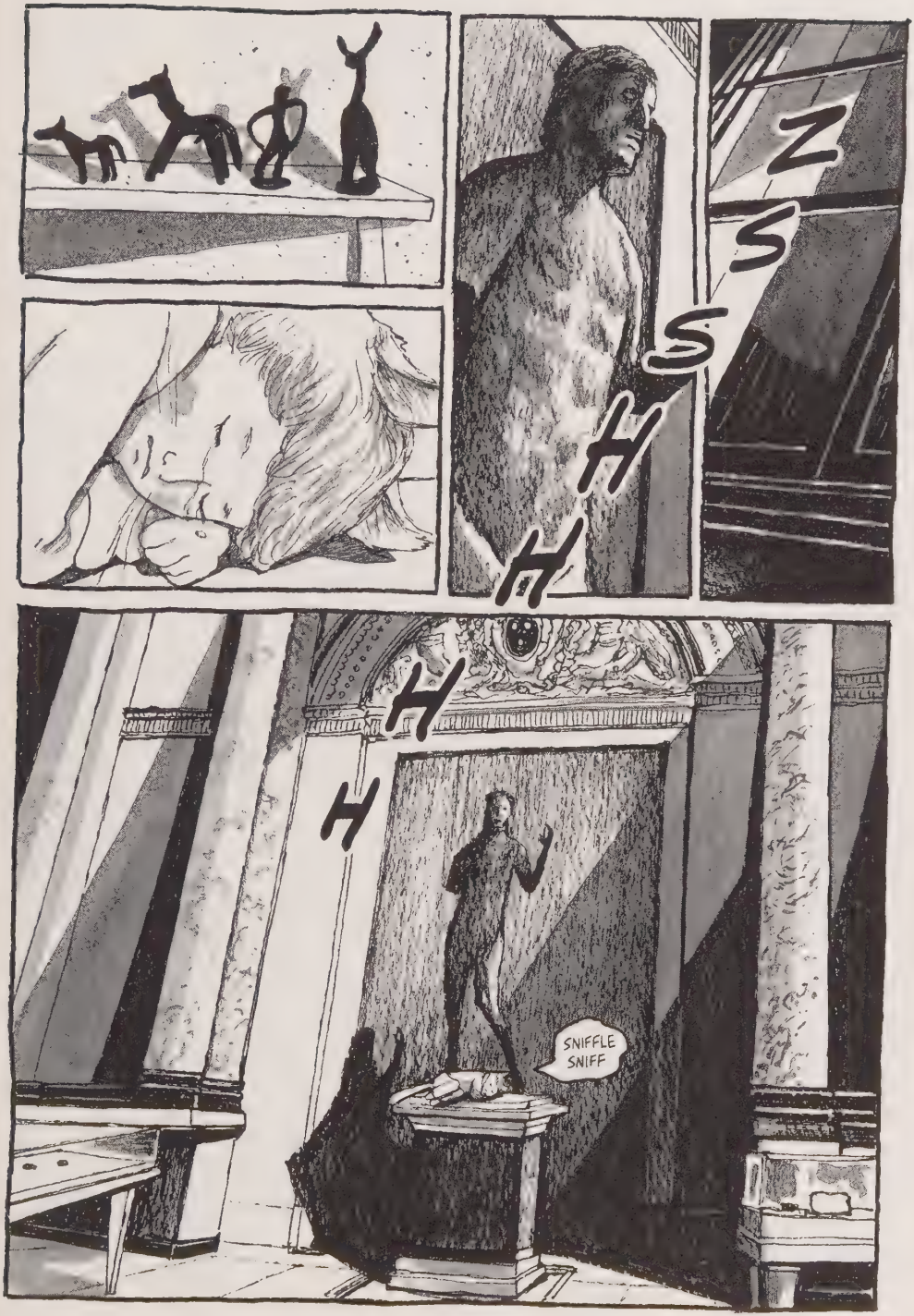
WOOF
HSSSS!!
FWOO!
WOOF
WOOF

WHOA, TIME TO GO HOME NOW...
SNIFF
SNIFF
IT'S JUST A SCRATCH.
STOP CRYING, FATCAT.
WAAH
MWAAH
WHIMPER WHIMPER
THOSE CLOUDS MEAN RAIN!
I'M TIRED.

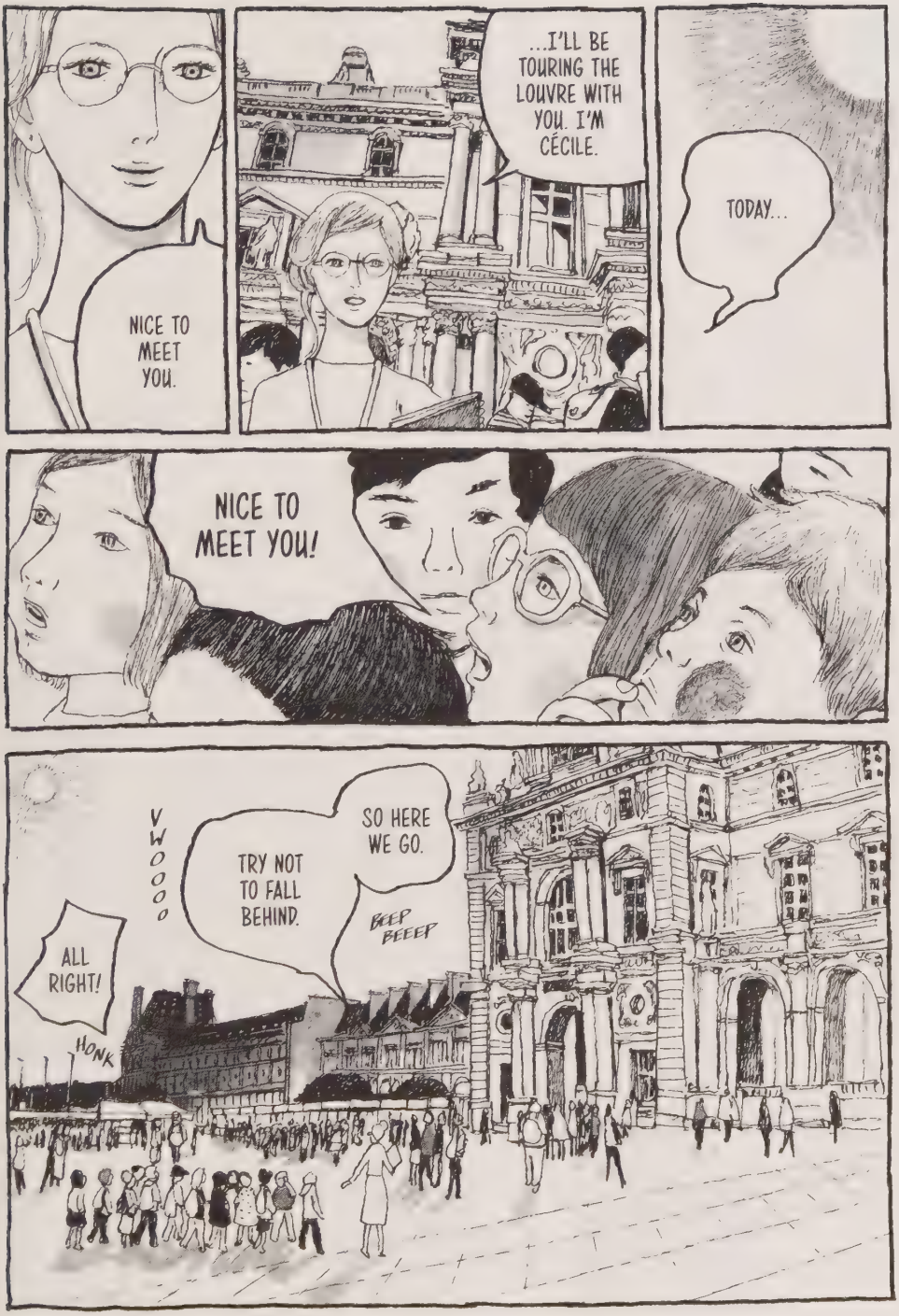
C'MON BACK NOW!
HEY— EUSTACHE! WHERE ARE YOU?
ZHF
HFF
HFF
HFF
HEY, DIDN'T I TELL YOU NOT TO WANDER OFF?
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF

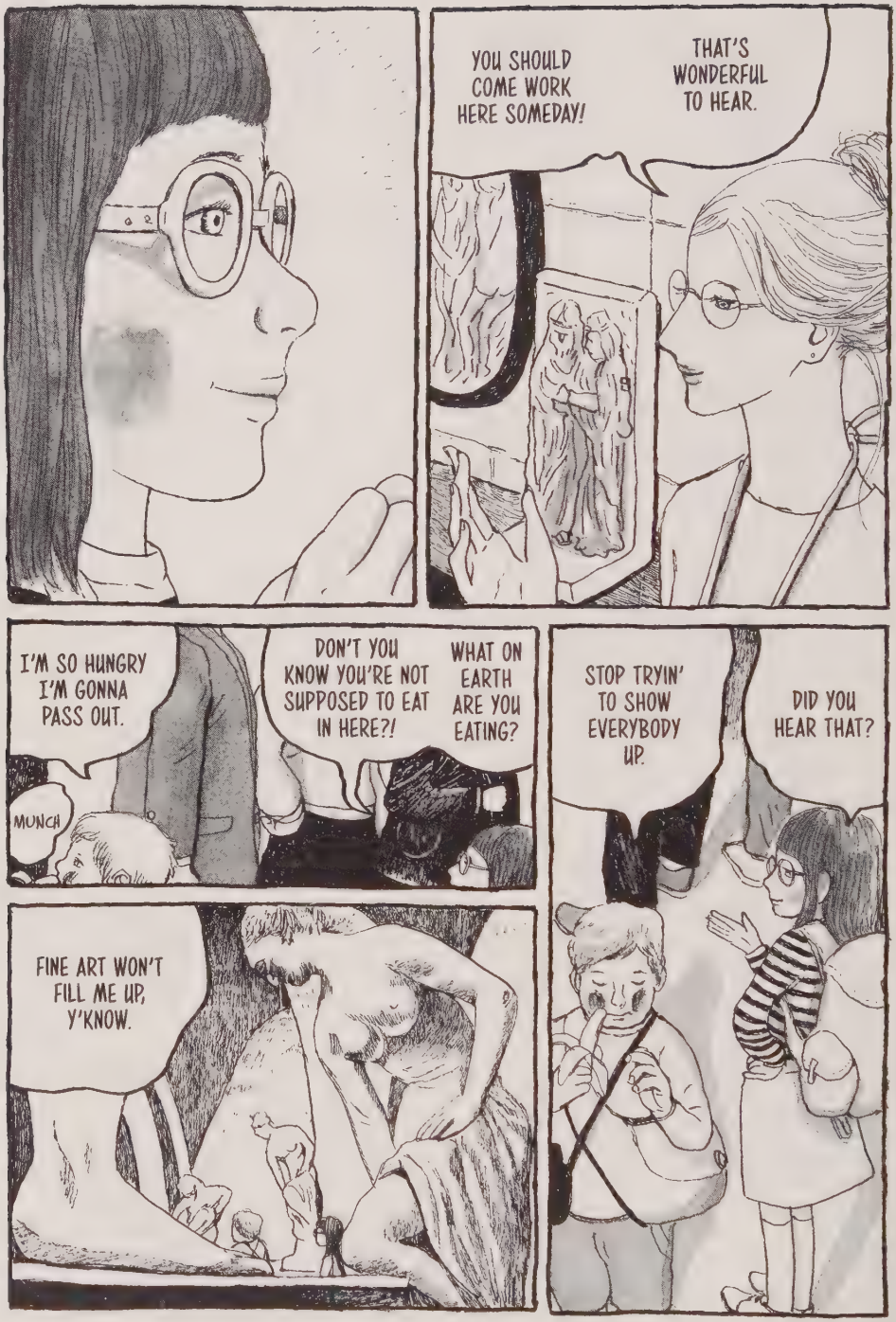
CHAPTER 3

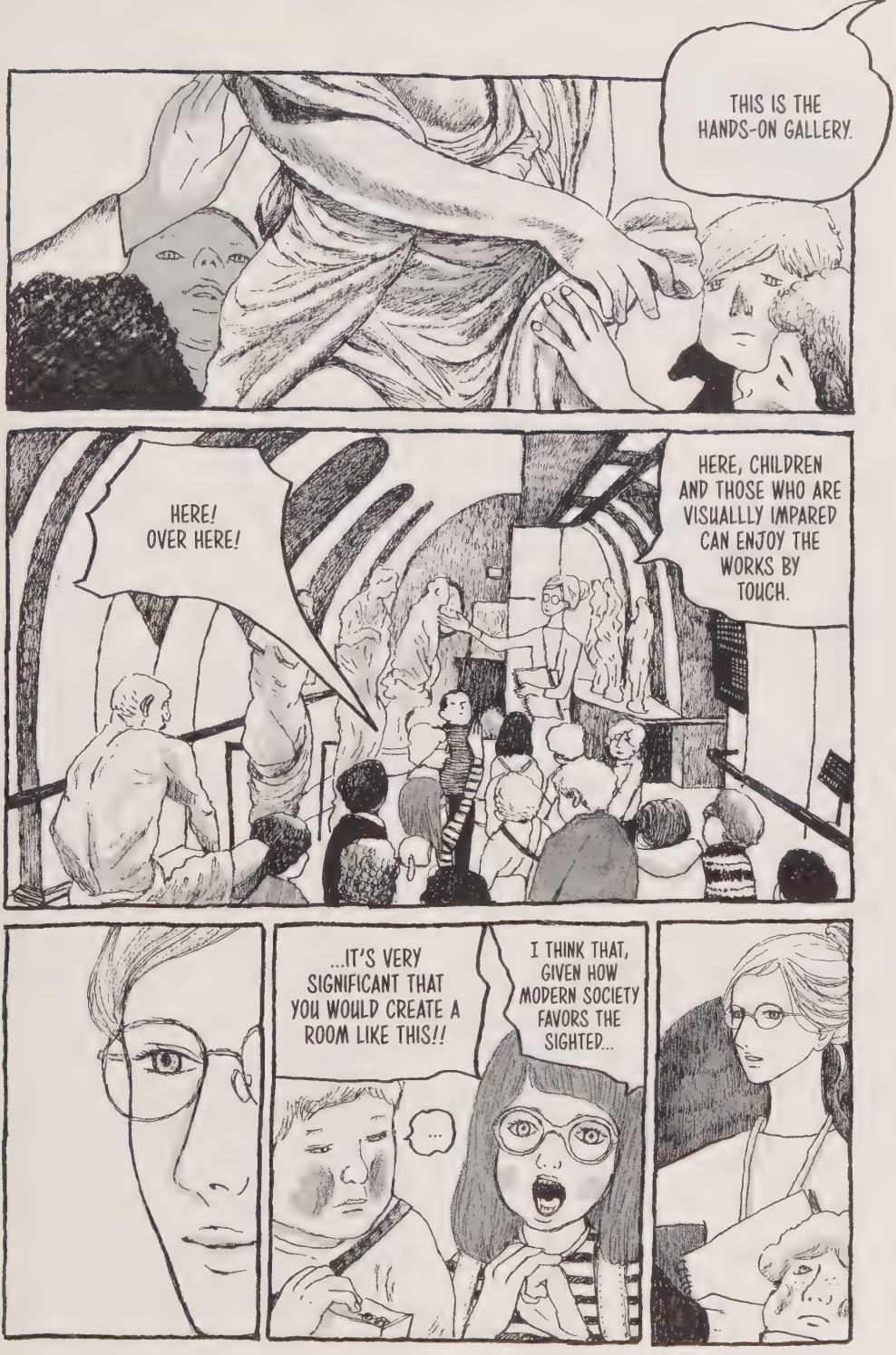
The Secret of the Children


Z
S
S
H
H
H
H
SNIFFLE
SNIFF

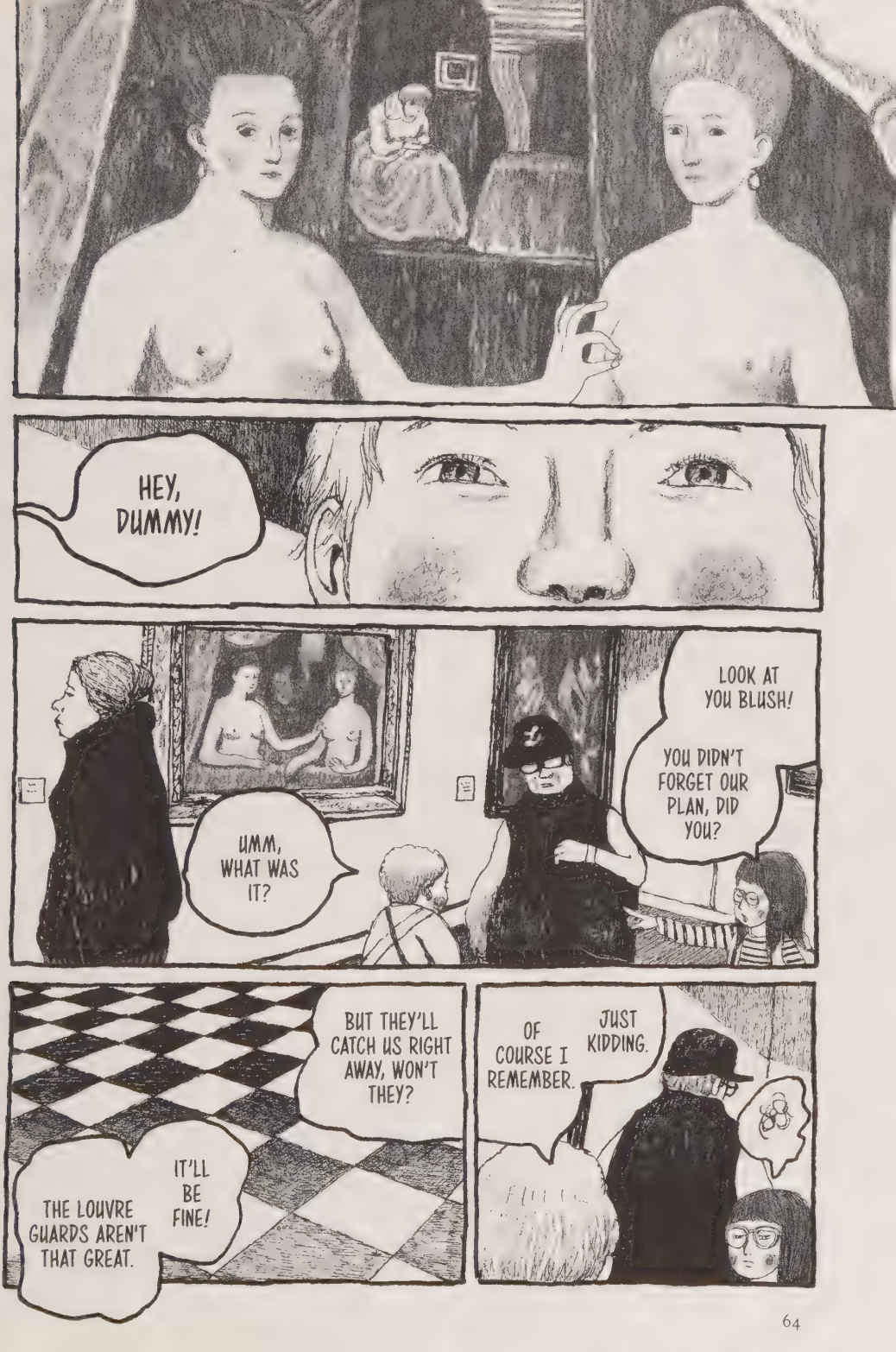
YOU'LL ALL KNOW THIS SCULPTURE FROM YOUR ART HISTORY TEXTBOOKS.
THOUGHT TO HAVE BEEN CREATED AROUND 190 B.C., OR ABOUT 2,200 YEARS AGO.
THE NIKE OF SAMOTHRACE, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE WINGED VICTORY OF SAMOTHRACE.
HMM.
SOMEDAY I'D LIKE TO DO THAT TOO.
MUSEUM GUIDES ARE AWESOME!
I WANNA BE A CHOCOLATIER.
IT WAS ORIGINALLY ON AN ALTAR VISIBLE FROM THE SEA.


NICE TO MEET YOU.
...I'LL BE TOURING THE LOUVRE WITH YOU. I'M CÉCILE.
TODAY...
NICE TO MEET YOU!
VWOOOO
TRY NOT TO FALL BEHIND.
SO HERE WE GO.
BEEP BEEEP
ALL RIGHT!
HONK


YOU SHOULD COME WORK HERE SOMEDAY!
THAT'S WONDERFUL TO HEAR.
I'M SO HUNGRY I'M GONNA PASS OUT.
MUNCH
DON'T YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO EAT IN HERE?!
WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU EATING?
STOP TRYIN' TO SHOW EVERYBODY UP.
DID YOU HEAR THAT?
FINE ART WON'T FILL ME UP, Y'KNOW.


THIS IS THE HANDS-ON GALLERY.
HERE! OVER HERE!
HERE, CHILDREN AND THOSE WHO ARE VISUALLLY IMPARED CAN ENJOY THE WORKS BY TOUCH.
...IT'S VERY SIGNIFICANT THAT YOU WOULD CREATE A ROOM LIKE THIS!!
I THINK THAT, GIVEN HOW MODERN SOCIETY FAVORS THE SIGHTED...
...

THANK YOU FOR VISITING THE MUSÉE DU LOUVRE.
VWoooooo
THANK YOU FOR COMING.
PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE ALL YOUR BELONGINGS.
THE LOUVRE WILL CLOSE AT 6 P.M.
PLEASE MAKE YOUR WAY TO THE EXITS.


HEY, DUMMY!
UMM, WHAT WAS IT?
YOU DIDN'T FORGET OUR PLAN, DID YOU?
LOOK AT YOU BLUSH!
BUT THEY'LL CATCH US RIGHT AWAY, WON'T THEY?
IT'LL BE FINE!
THE LOUVRE GUARDS AREN'T THAT GREAT.
OF COURSE I REMEMBER.
JUST KIDDING.

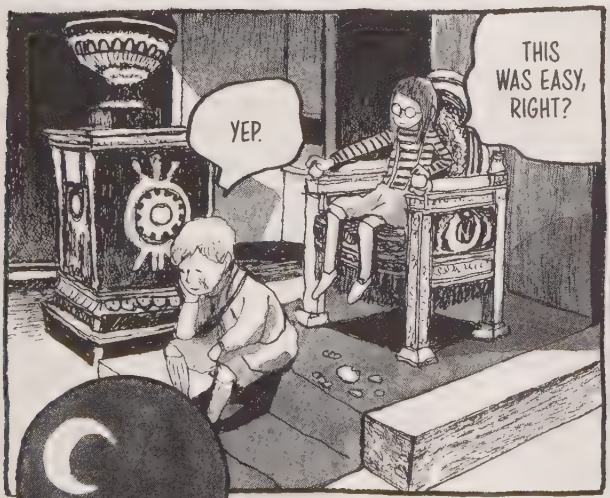
YES, ANOTHER DAY DONE, ZOÉ!
THAT'S IT FOR TODAY.
THERE ARE ALWAYS A LOT OF PEOPLE HERE.
SURE WAS CROWDED TODAY.
BABYLONE
IS CÉCILE GAGNIER HERE?
MISS GAGNIER.
YOU ALWAYS SAY THAT, DON'T YOU. HA HA.
BECAUSE IT'S TRUE.

KEH HEH HEH...
THE LOUVRE WILL CLOSE AT 6 P.M.
SHHH!
NO ONE EVEN NOTICED. HEH HEH HEH!
PIPE DOWN, DUMMY!
THANK YOU FOR VISITING.

"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"
"I AM NO PILOT; YET, WERT THOU AS FAR AS THAT VAST SHORE WASH'D WITH THE FARTHEST SEA...
...I WOULD ADVENTURE FOR SUCH MERCHANDISE."
"...WOULD SMELL AS SWEET."
"THAT WHICH WE CALL A ROSE, BY ANY OTHER NAME..."

IS THERE A PROBLEM?
YES...
YOU WERE WITH THE SCHOOLCHILDREN FROM DEAUVILLE?
les Gardi

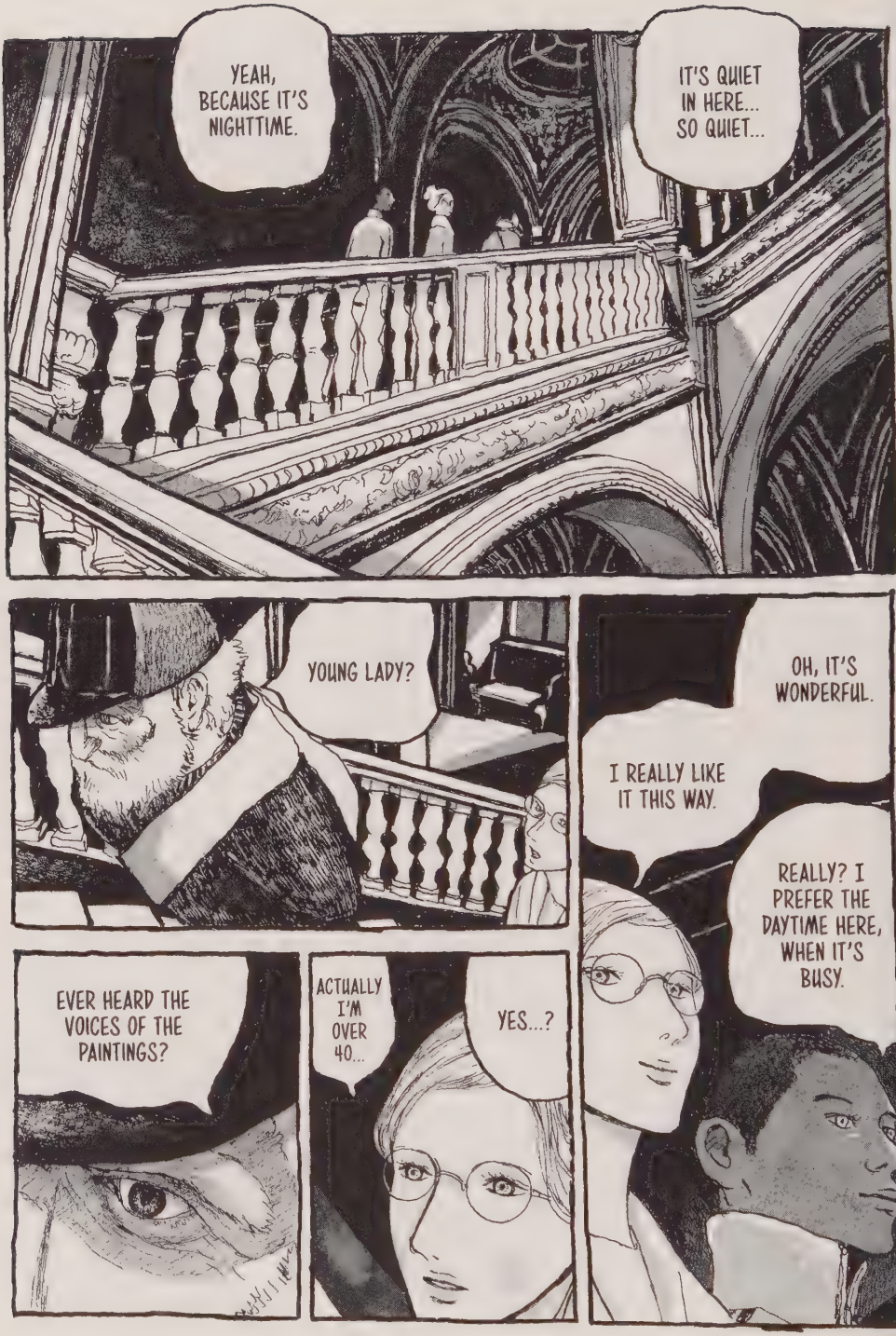
WE GOT A CALL THAT TWO OF THE KIDS HAVEN'T RETURNED HOME YET.

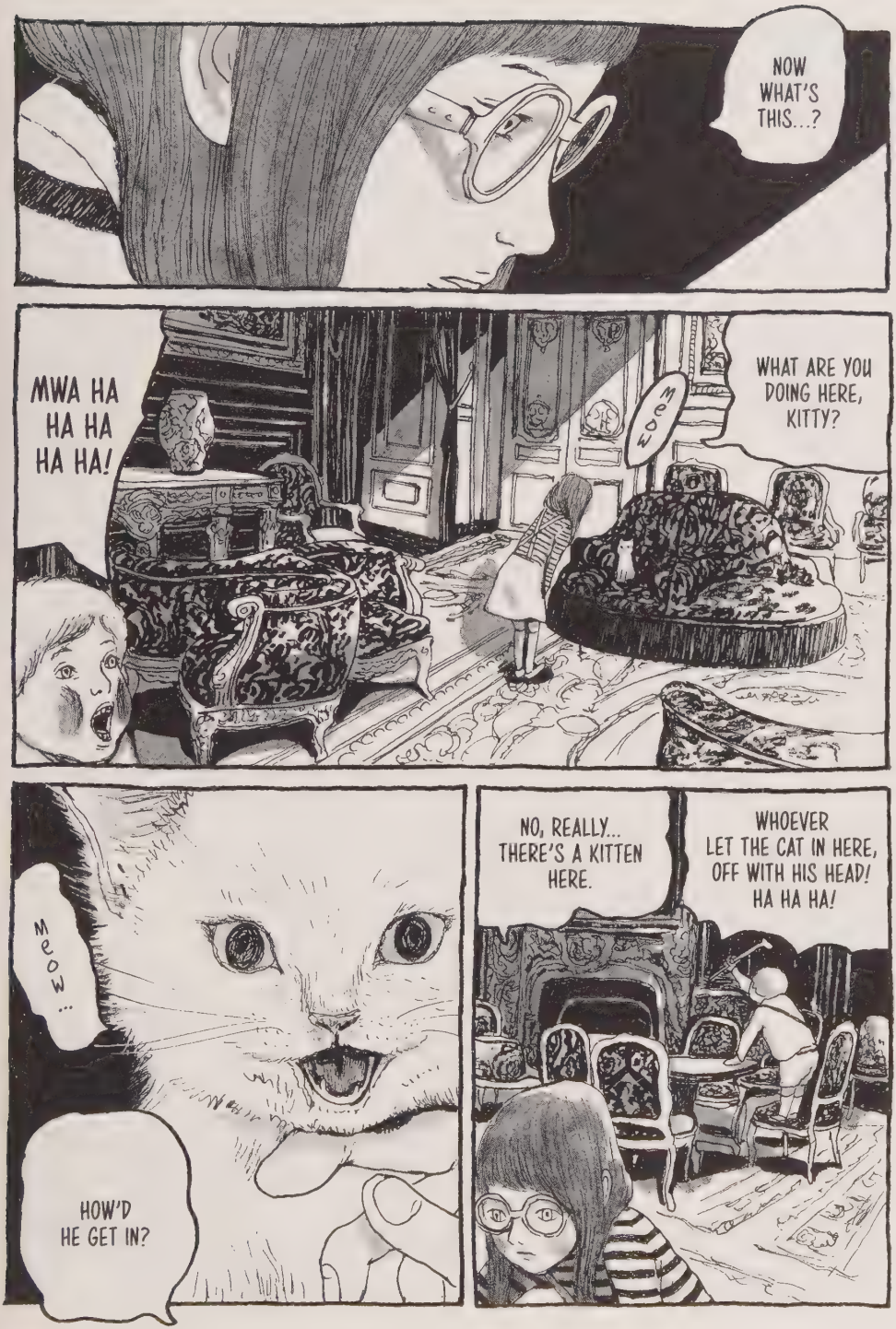

YEP.
THIS WAS EASY, RIGHT?

SEE?

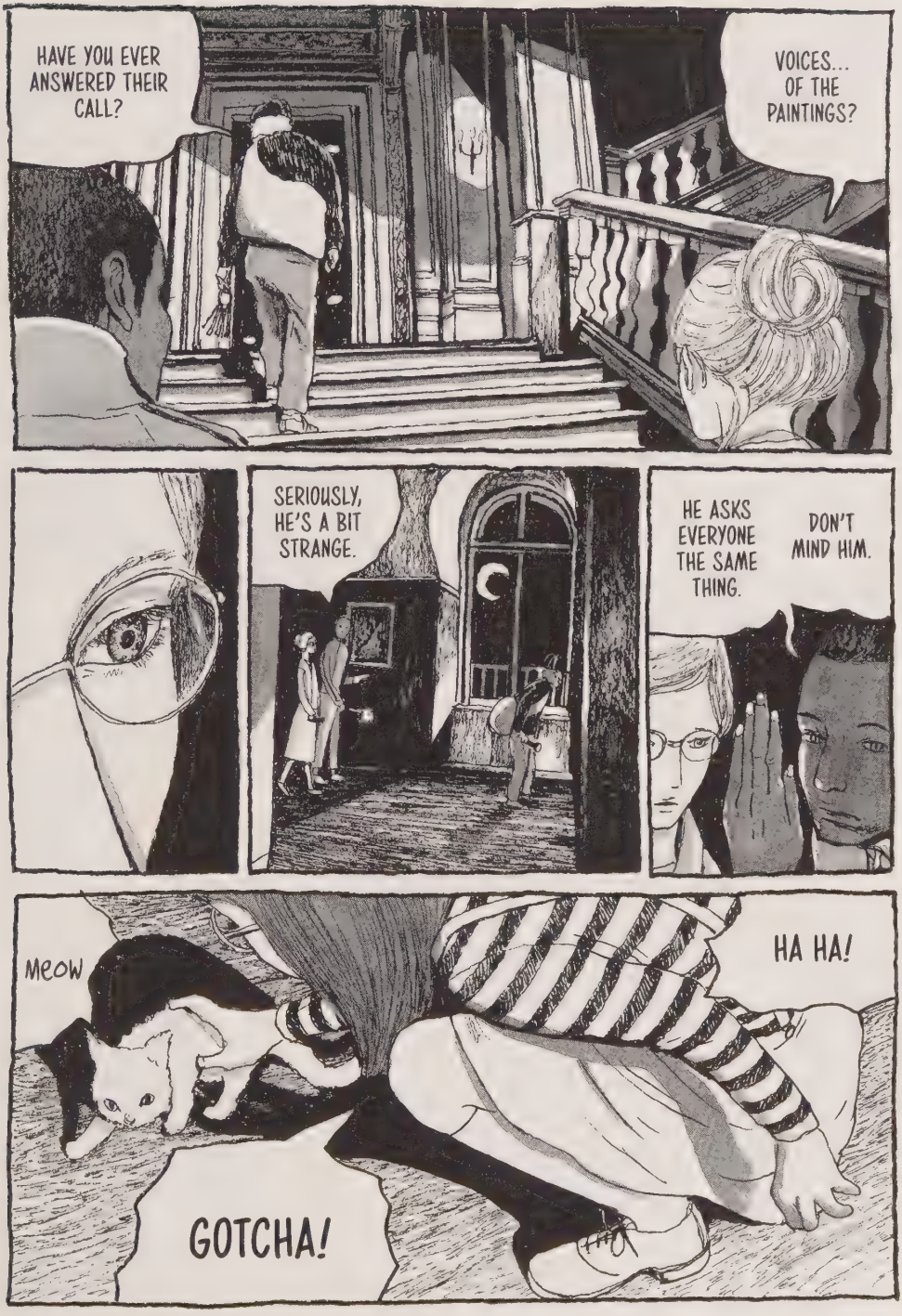
RIGHT HERE. LOOK. TWO KIDS.
YOU SEE SOMETHING?
HA HA HA. LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE HAVING FUN.
THEY'RE IN THE DRAWING ROOM OF THE NAPOLEON III APARTMENTS... RICHELIEU WING.
OH YEAH... I REMEMBER THEM...
PERSONALLY, I LIKE KIDS LIKE THAT.

YEAH, SURE.
STILL HAVE THAT CANDY?
GURGLE
THAT'S ALL? THERE'S HARDLY ANY LEFT.
BECAUSE I ATE SOME.
I THINK WE FOUND THEM.


YEAH, BECAUSE IT'S NIGHTTIME.
IT'S QUIET IN HERE... SO QUIET...
YOUNG LADY?
OH, IT'S WONDERFUL.
I REALLY LIKE IT THIS WAY.
REALLY? I PREFER THE DAYTIME HERE, WHEN IT'S BUSY.
EVER HEARD THE VOICES OF THE PAINTINGS?
ACTUALLY I'M OVER 40...
YES...?

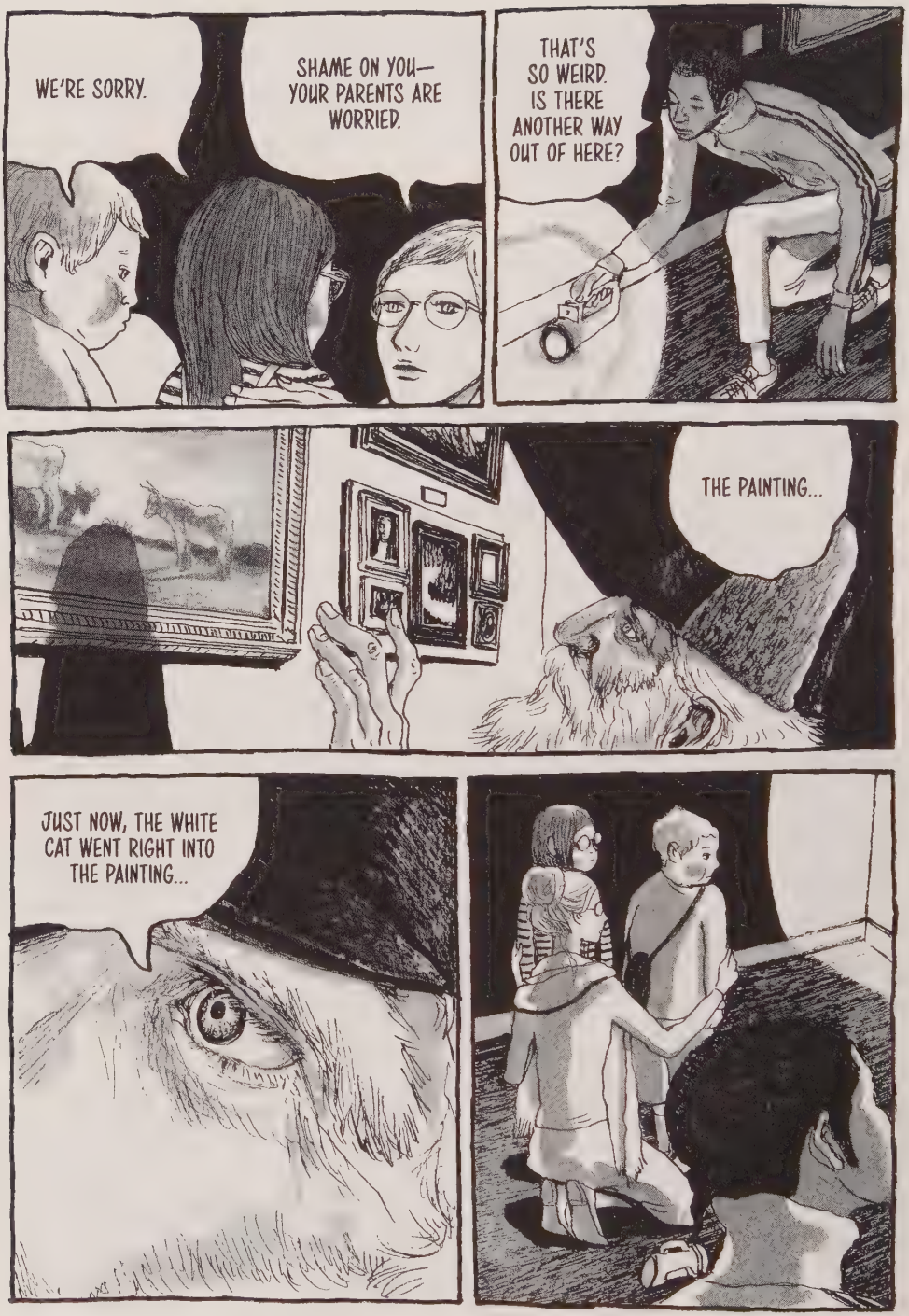

NOW WHAT'S THIS...?
MWA HA HA HA HA!
MEOW
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, KITTY?
MEOW...
HOW'D HE GET IN?
NO, REALLY... THERE'S A KITTEN HERE.
WHOEVER LET THE CAT IN HERE, OFF WITH HIS HEAD! HA HA HA!

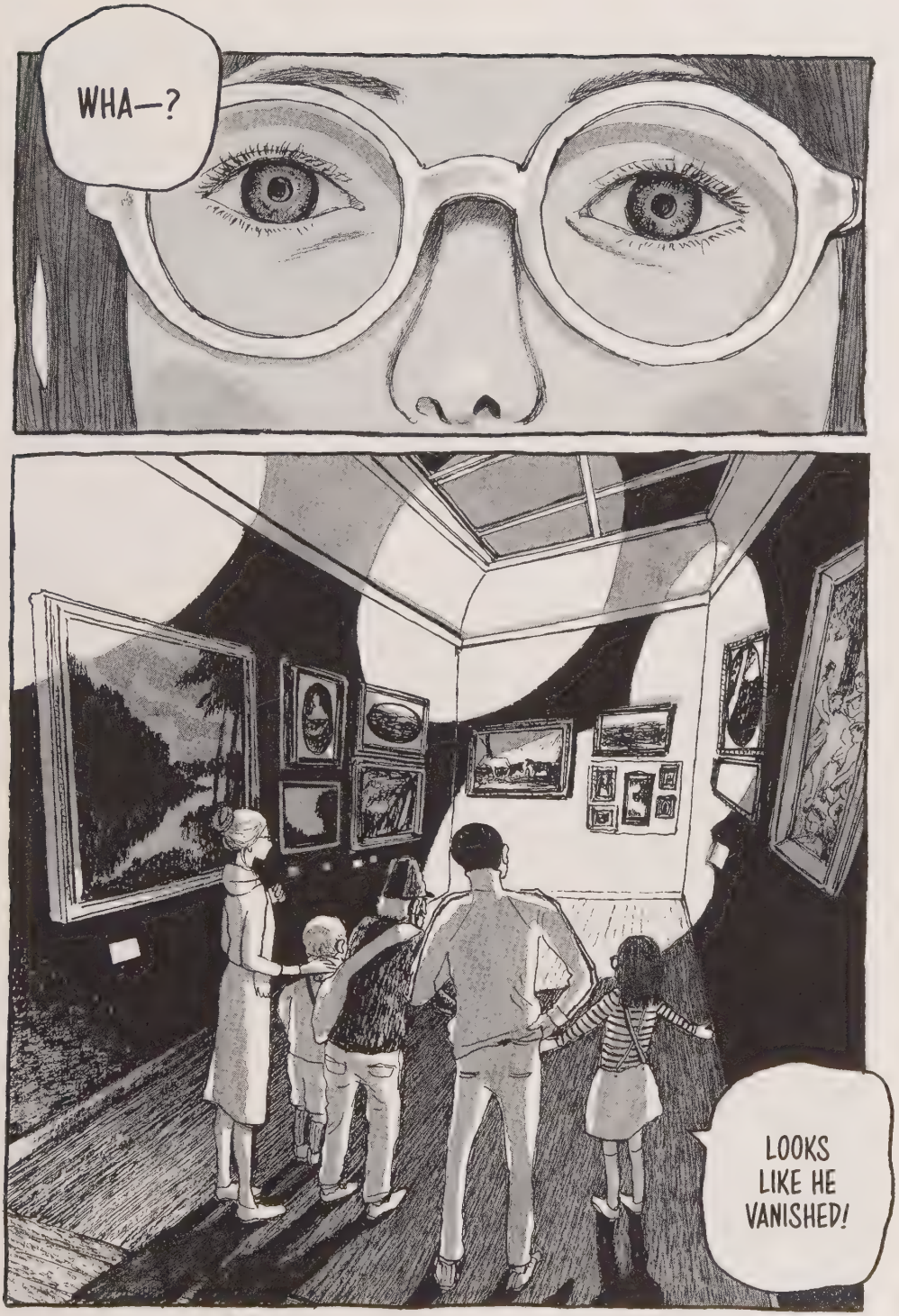
HEY!
HE GOT AWAY!
HA HA HA!
HA HA HA HA!
HMM...


HAVE YOU EVER ANSWERED THEIR CALL?
VOICES... OF THE PAINTINGS?
SERIOUSLY, HE'S A BIT STRANGE.
HE ASKS EVERYONE THE SAME THING.
DON'T MIND HIM.
MEOW
HA HA!
GOTCHA!

SKCH
HEY, WAIT!
TMP
TMP
PASH

THERE THEY ARE!
OH NO!!
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?
WHAT'RE YOU DOING, PLAYING DOWN HERE?
That little cat again...
THE CAT'S GETTING AWAY!
WHAT?

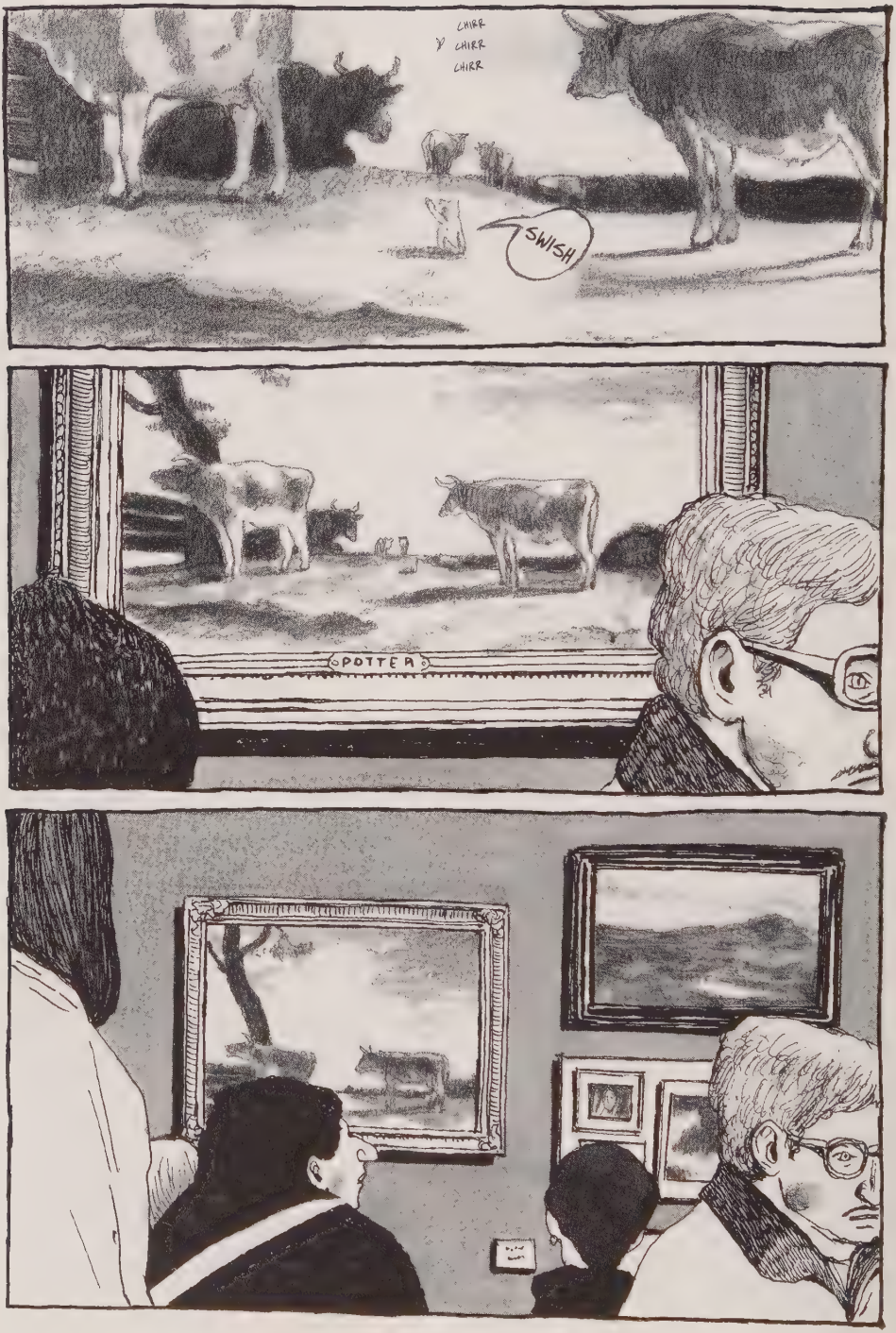

WE'RE SORRY.
SHAME ON YOU— YOUR PARENTS ARE WORRIED.
THAT'S SO WEIRD. IS THERE ANOTHER WAY OUT OF HERE?
THE PAINTING...
JUST NOW, THE WHITE CAT WENT RIGHT INTO THE PAINTING...


WHA—?
LOOKS LIKE HE VANISHED!

CHAPTER 4

The Secret of Sawtooth

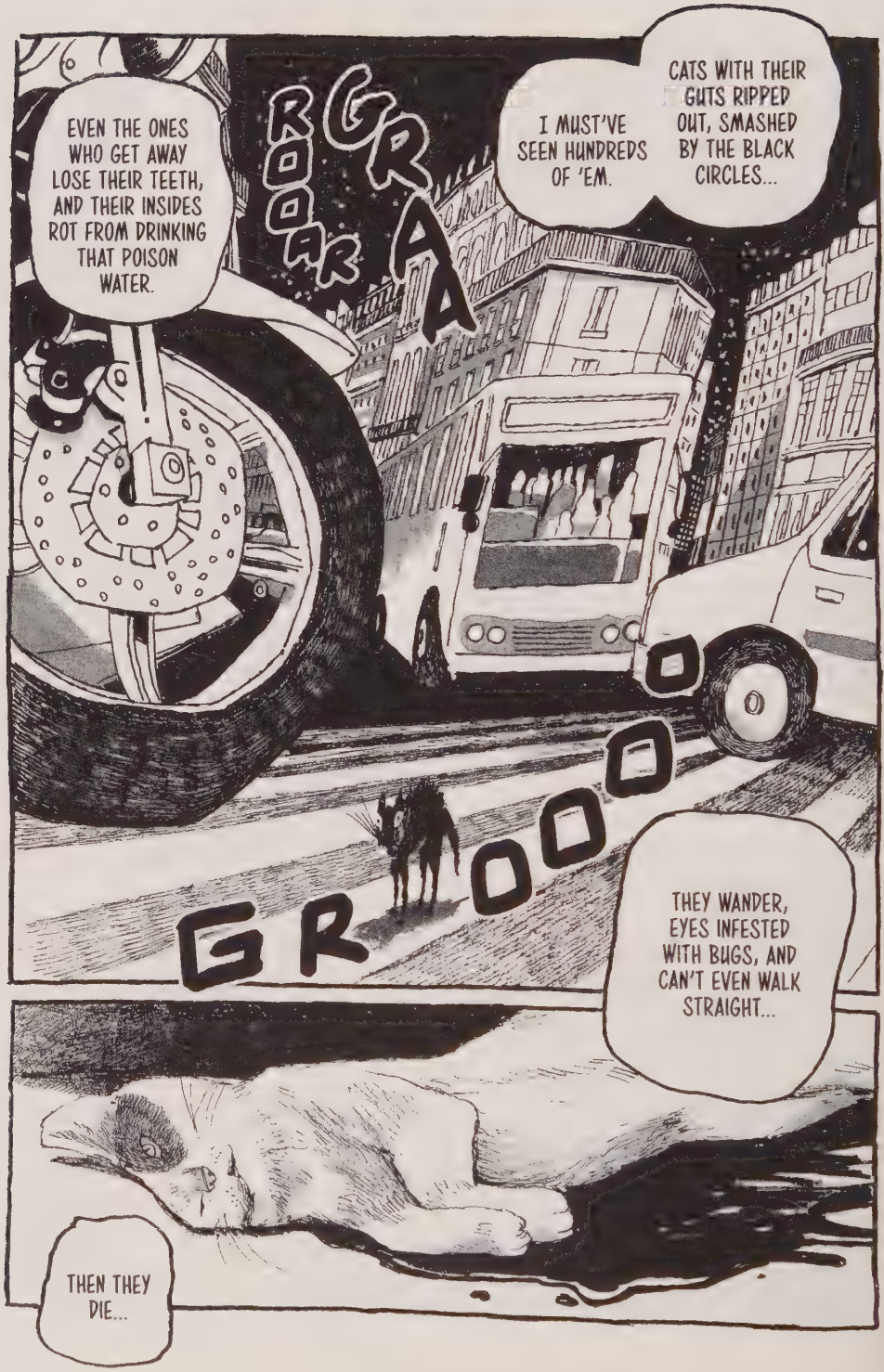
HE ESCAPED THROUGH HERE.

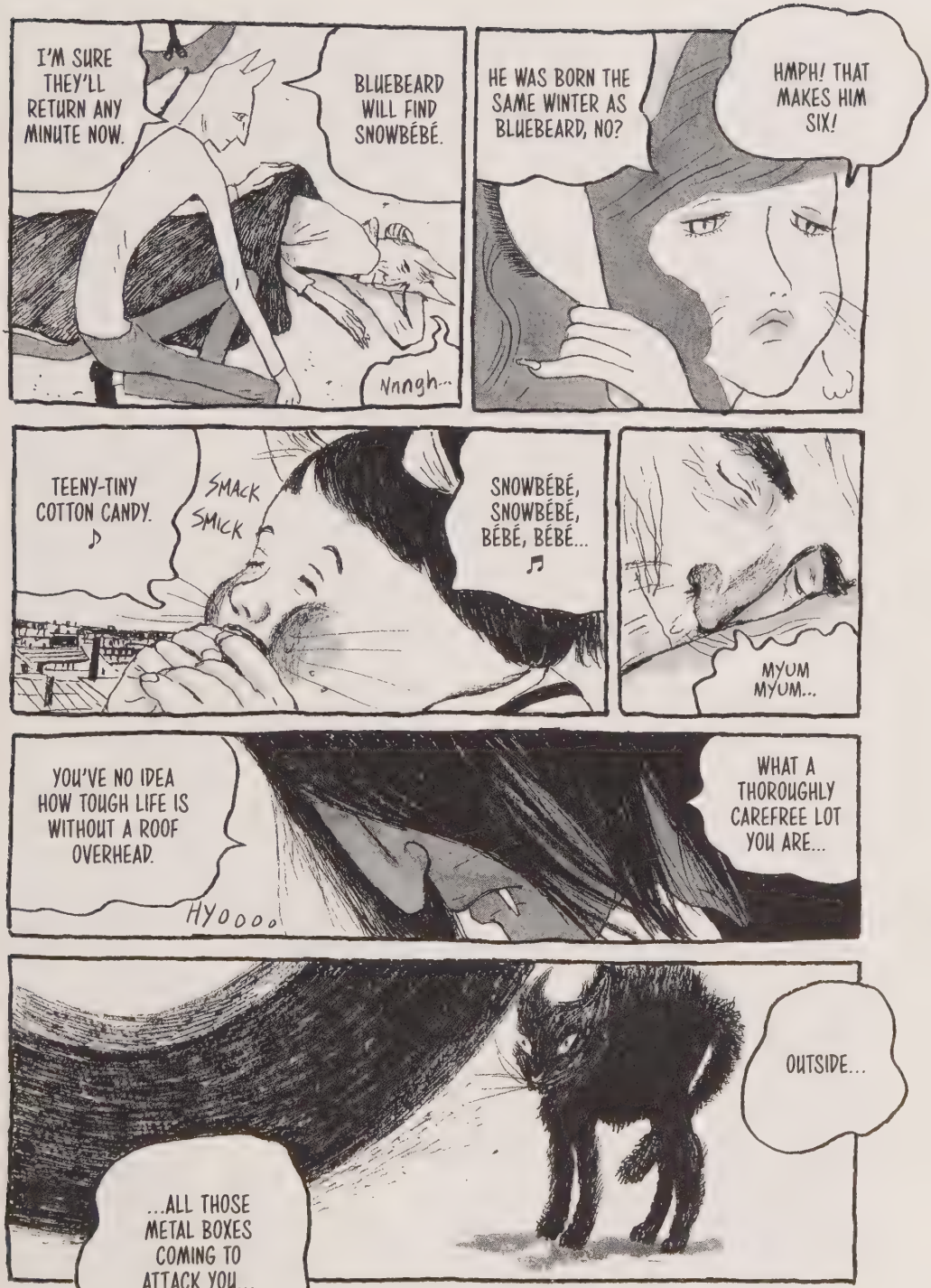

CHIRR
CHIRR
CHIRR
SWISH
POTTER

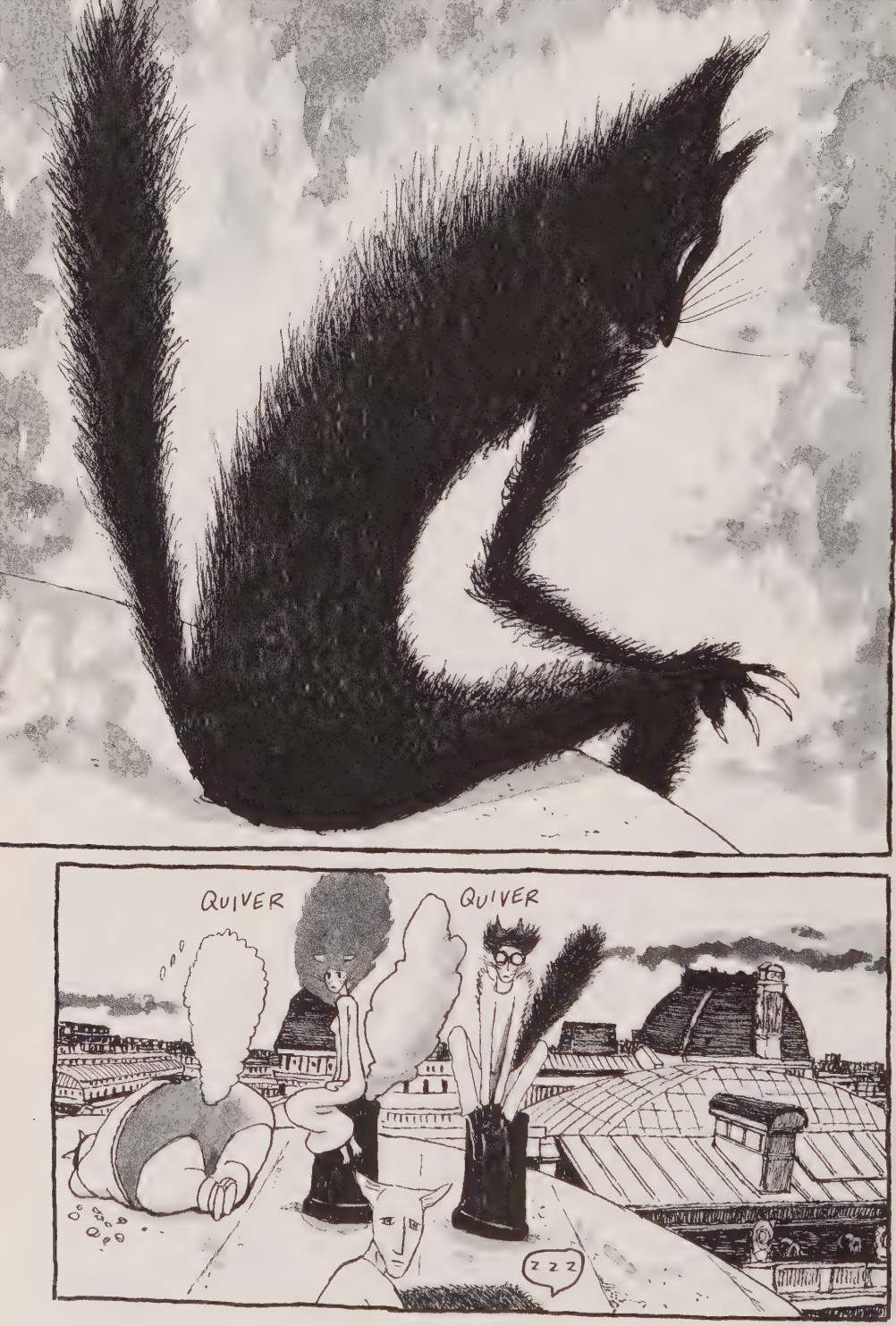
CHIRR
CHIRR
FWAP
CHIRR
CHIRR
CHIRR
CHIRR
FMPH

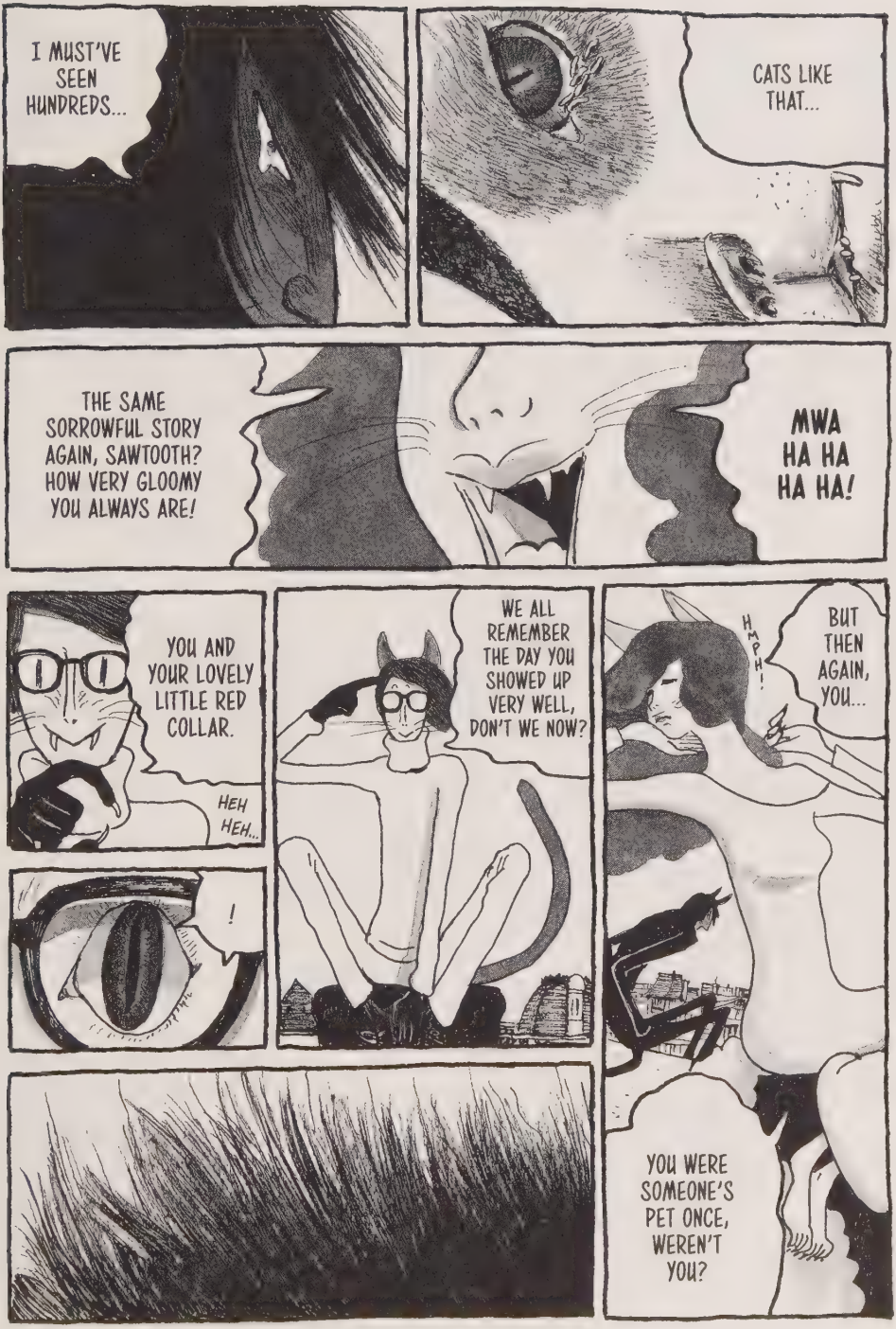
MEOWOW. ♡
VWOOOO
THAT PESKY SNOWBÉBÉ... HE DISAPPEARED AGAIN.
THOROUGHLY SPOOKY TOO...
HWOOO
HE WAS JUST A KITTEN WHEN I FIRST LAID EYES ON HIM.
SNOWBÉBÉ JUST MELTS AWAY SOMETIMES...
THAT'S SNOW FOR YOU!
PURRR
THE SUN... IT'S SO WARM HERE.
BEEN A WHILE, NO?
HE'LL NEVER GROW UP...
...HE STILL LOOKS LIKE A NEWBORN.
THOUGH MANY SUMMERS AND WINTERS HAVE PASSED SINCE THEN...

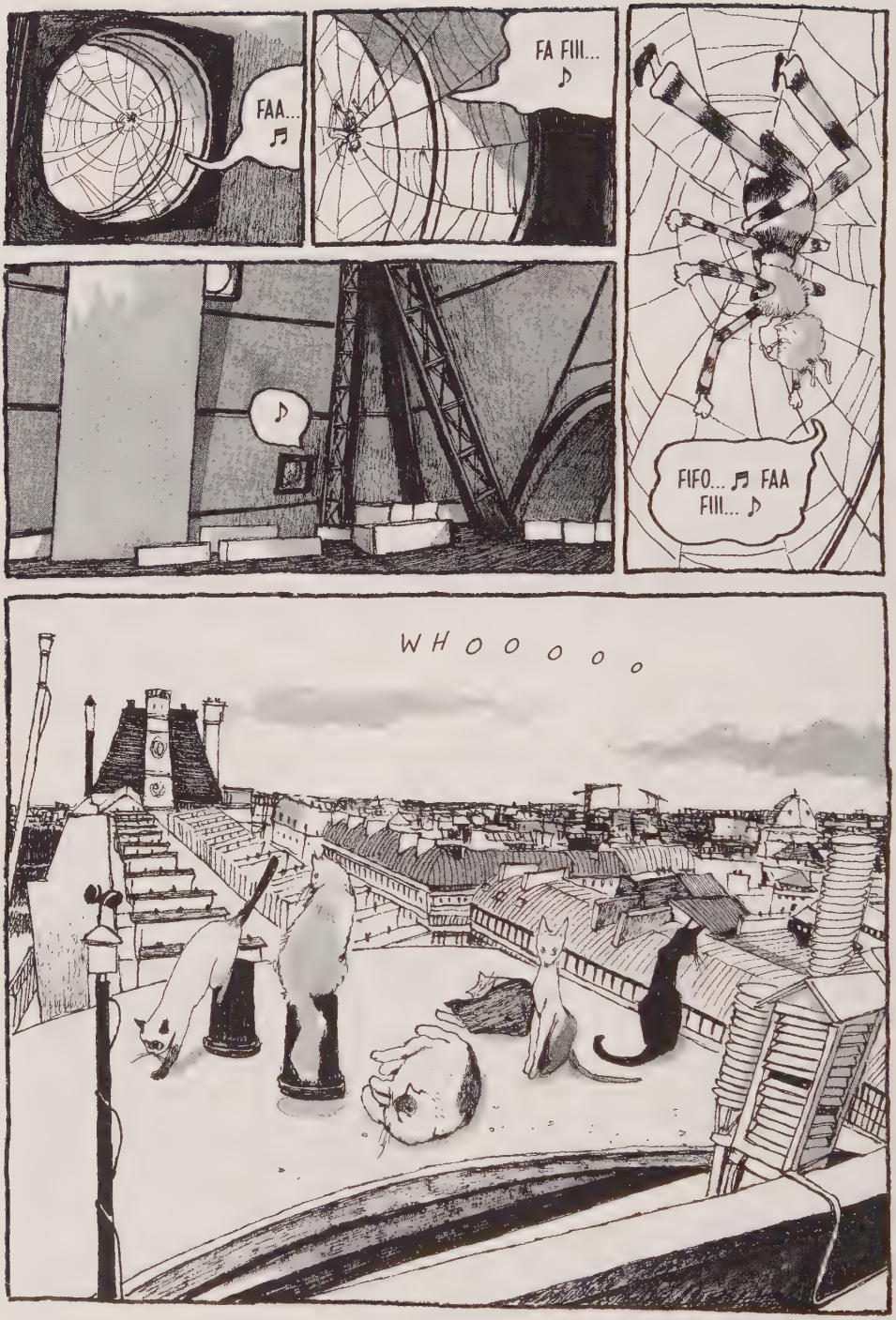
TSK...
WHOOOOOOO

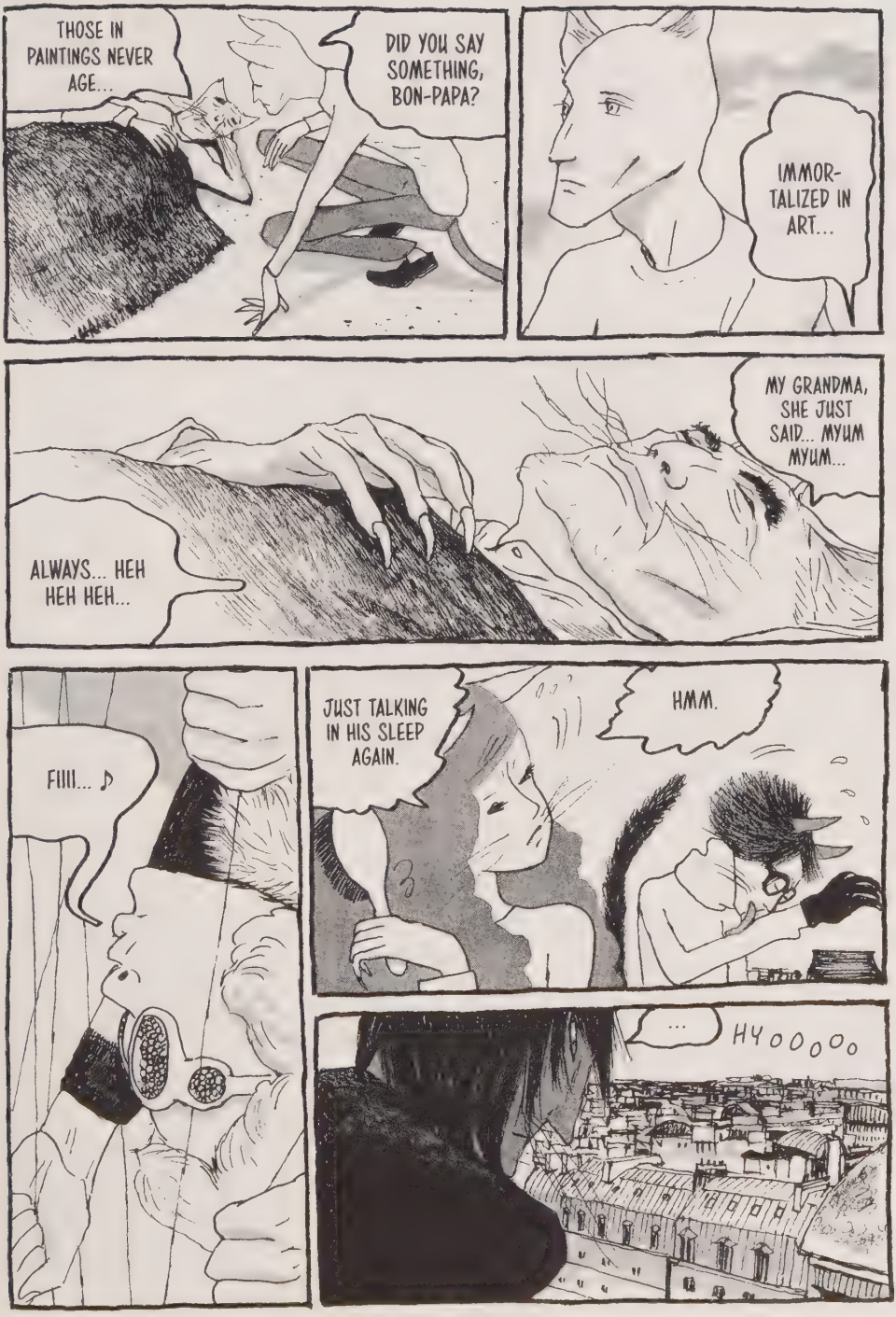

EVEN THE ONES WHO GET AWAY LOSE THEIR TEETH, AND THEIR INSIDES ROT FROM DRINKING THAT POISON WATER.
ROOAR
GRAA
I MUST'VE SEEN HUNDREDS OF 'EM.
CATS WITH THEIR GUTS RIPPED OUT, SMASHED BY THE BLACK CIRCLES...
GROOOO
THEY WANDER, EYES INFESTED WITH BUGS, AND CAN'T EVEN WALK STRAIGHT...
THEN THEY DIE...


I'M SURE THEY'LL RETURN ANY MINUTE NOW.
BLUEBEARD WILL FIND SNOWBÉBÉ.
Nnngh...
HE WAS BORN THE SAME WINTER AS BLUEBEARD, NO?
HMPH! THAT MAKES HIM SIX!
TEENY-TINY COTTON CANDY. ♪
SMACK SMICK
SNOWBÉBÉ, SNOWBÉBÉ, BÉBÉ, BÉBÉ... ♫
MYUM MYUM...
YOU'VE NO IDEA HOW TOUGH LIFE IS WITHOUT A ROOF OVERHEAD.
HYOOOO
WHAT A THOROUGHLY CAREFREE LOT YOU ARE...
...ALL THOSE METAL BOXES COMING TO ATTACK YOU...
OUTSIDE...

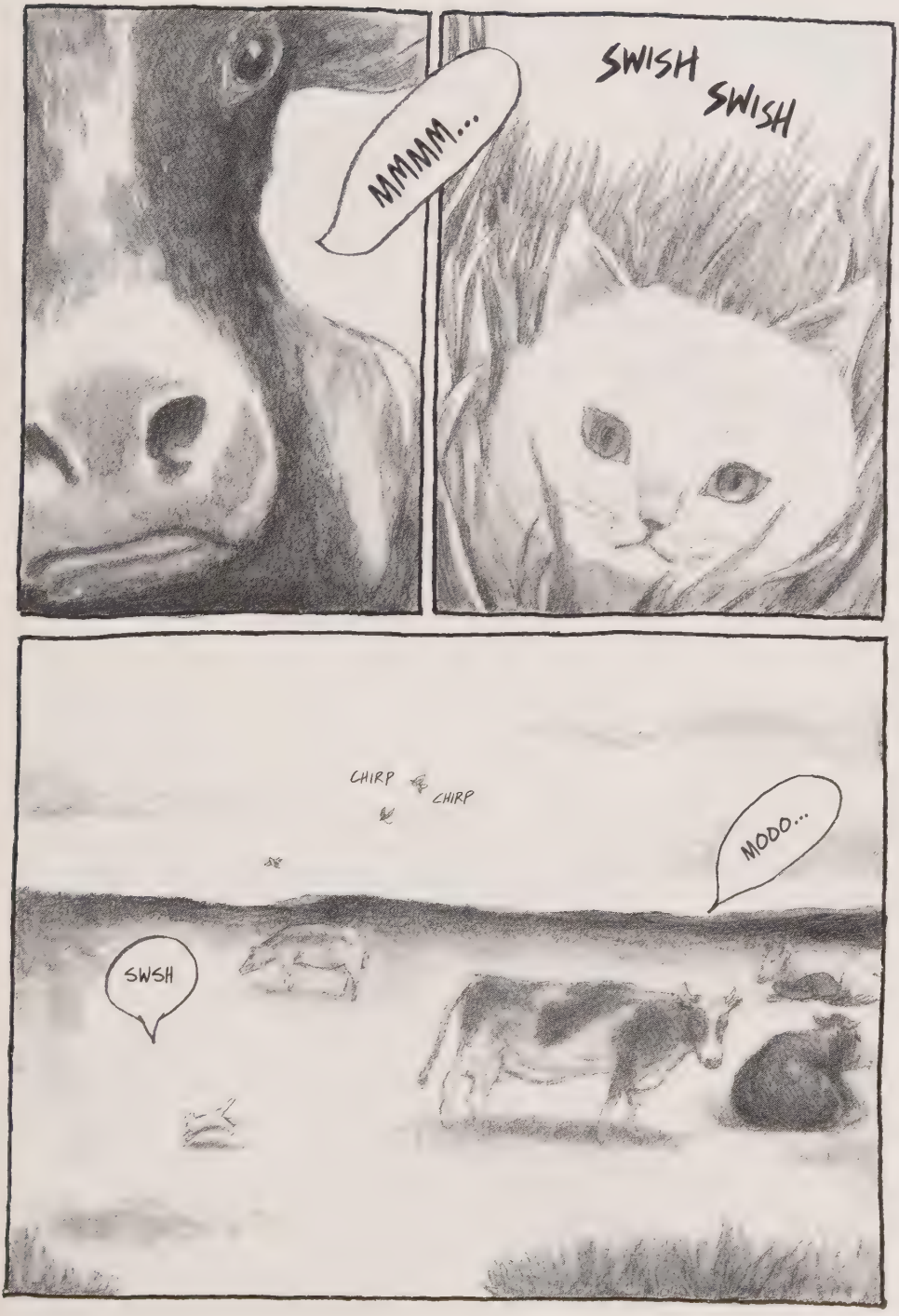

QUIVER
QUIVER
ZZZ

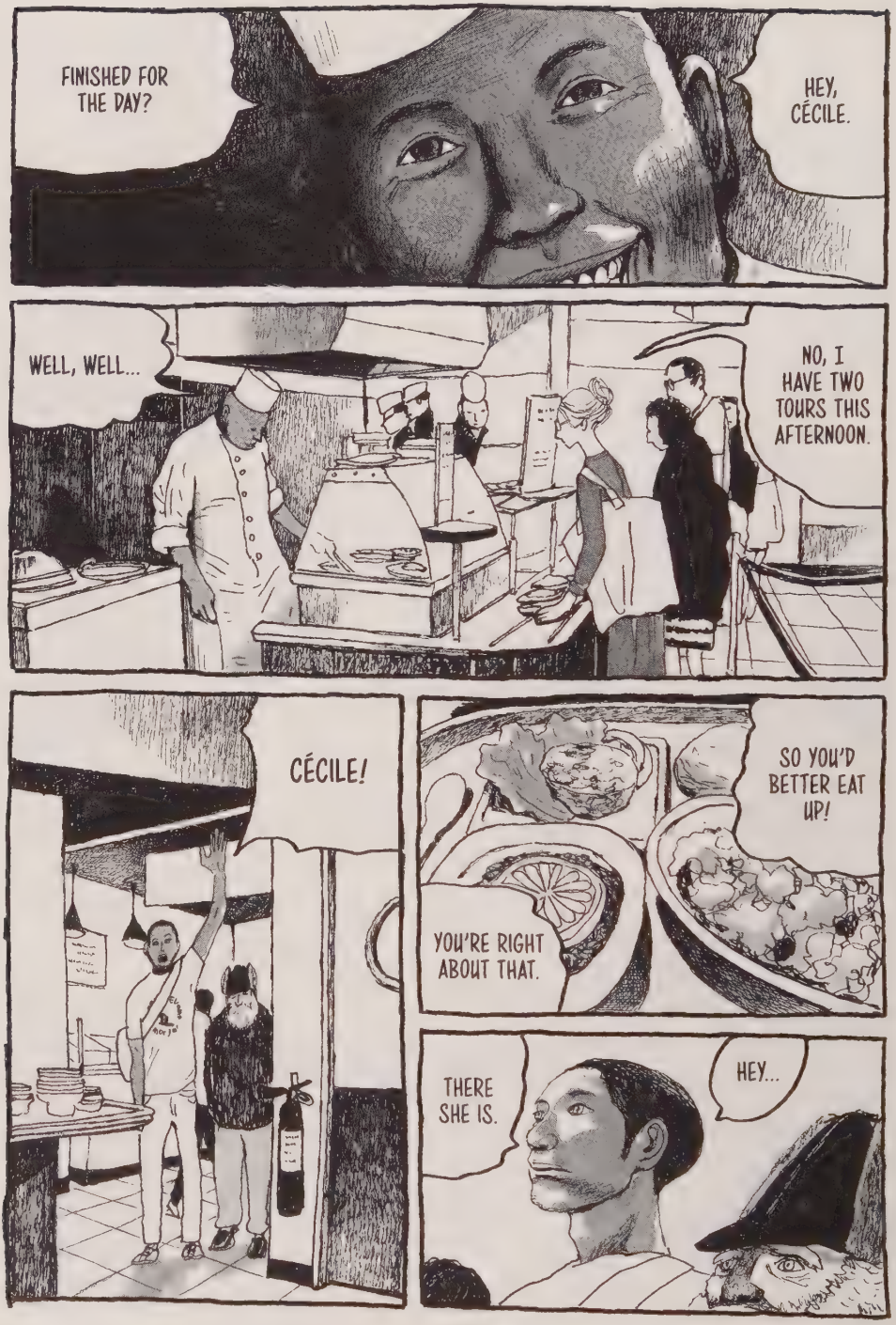

I MUST'VE SEEN HUNDREDS...
CATS LIKE THAT...
THE SAME SORROWFUL STORY AGAIN, SAWTOOTH? HOW VERY GLOOMY YOU ALWAYS ARE!
MWA HA HA HA HA!
YOU AND YOUR LOVELY LITTLE RED COLLAR.
HEH HEH...
!
WE ALL REMEMBER THE DAY YOU SHOWED UP VERY WELL, DON'T WE NOW?
HMPH!
BUT THEN AGAIN, YOU...
YOU WERE SOMEONE'S PET ONCE, WEREN'T YOU?


FAA...
FA FIII...
FIFO... FAA FIII...
WHOOOOOO

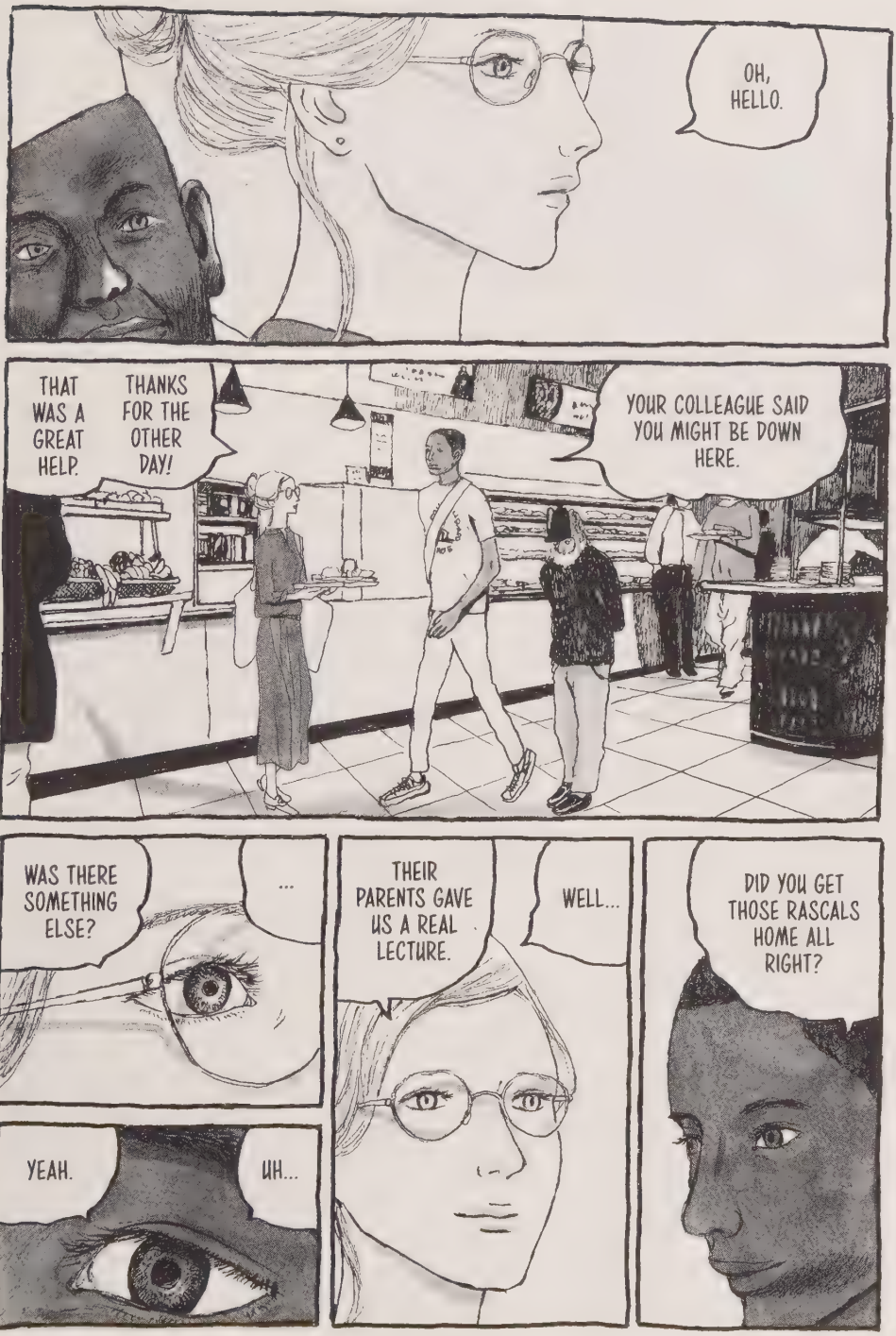

THOSE IN PAINTINGS NEVER AGE...
DID YOU SAY SOMETHING, BON-PAPA?
IMMORTALIZED IN ART...
MY GRANDMA, SHE JUST SAID... MYUM MYUM...
ALWAYS... HEH HEH HEH...
FIIII... ♪
JUST TALKING IN HIS SLEEP AGAIN.
HMM.
... HYOOOOO

YOU'RE STUCK HERE!
TWEE
TWEE
TWEE
CAT! CAT!
CAN'T GO HOME!
TWEE
TWEE
WHITE CAT CAN'T GO HOME!
CHIRP
GO HOME QUICK.
GO HOME QUICK!
CHIRP
!

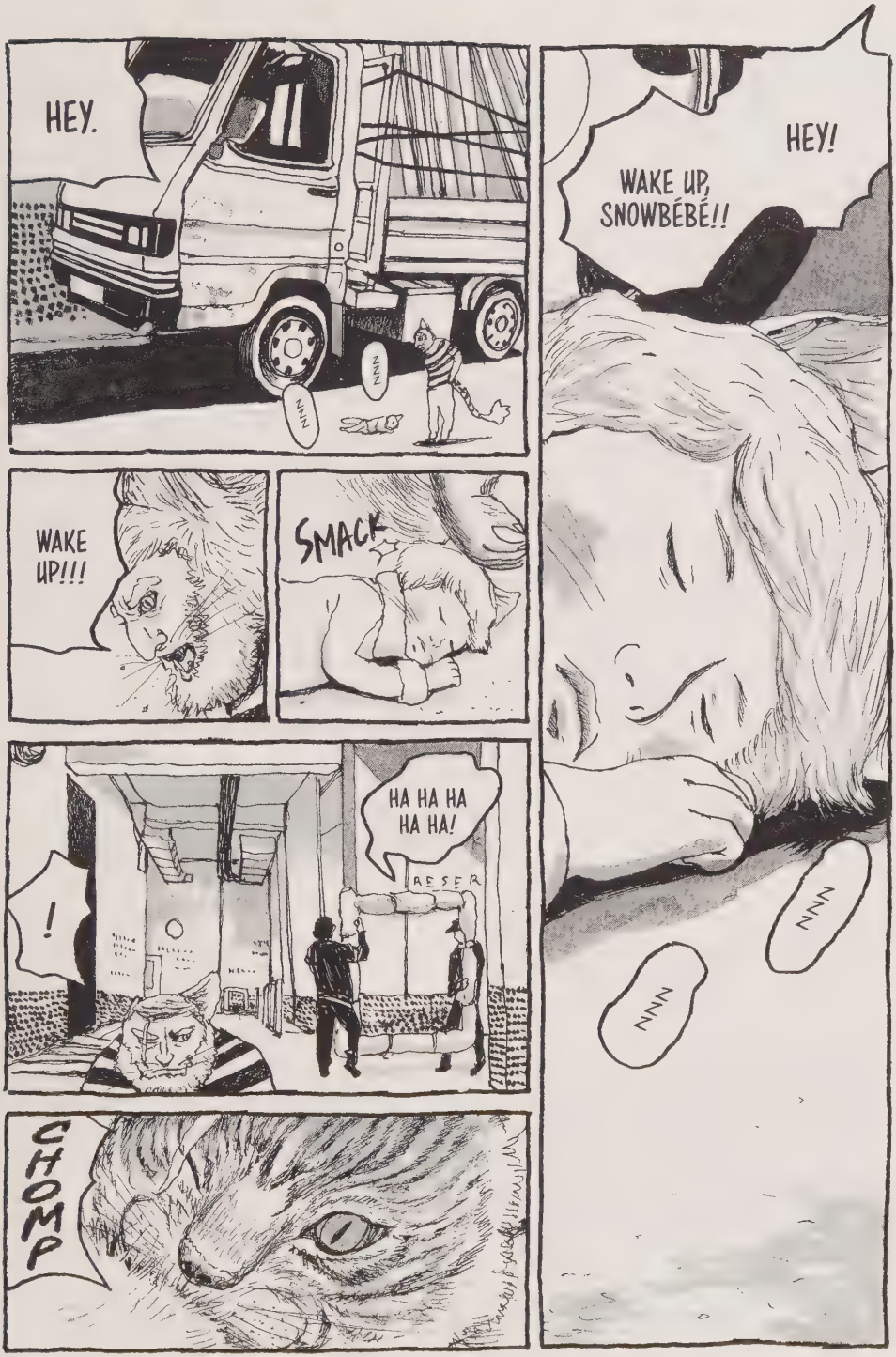

MMMM...
SWISH SWISH
CHIRP
CHIRP
MOOO...
SWSH

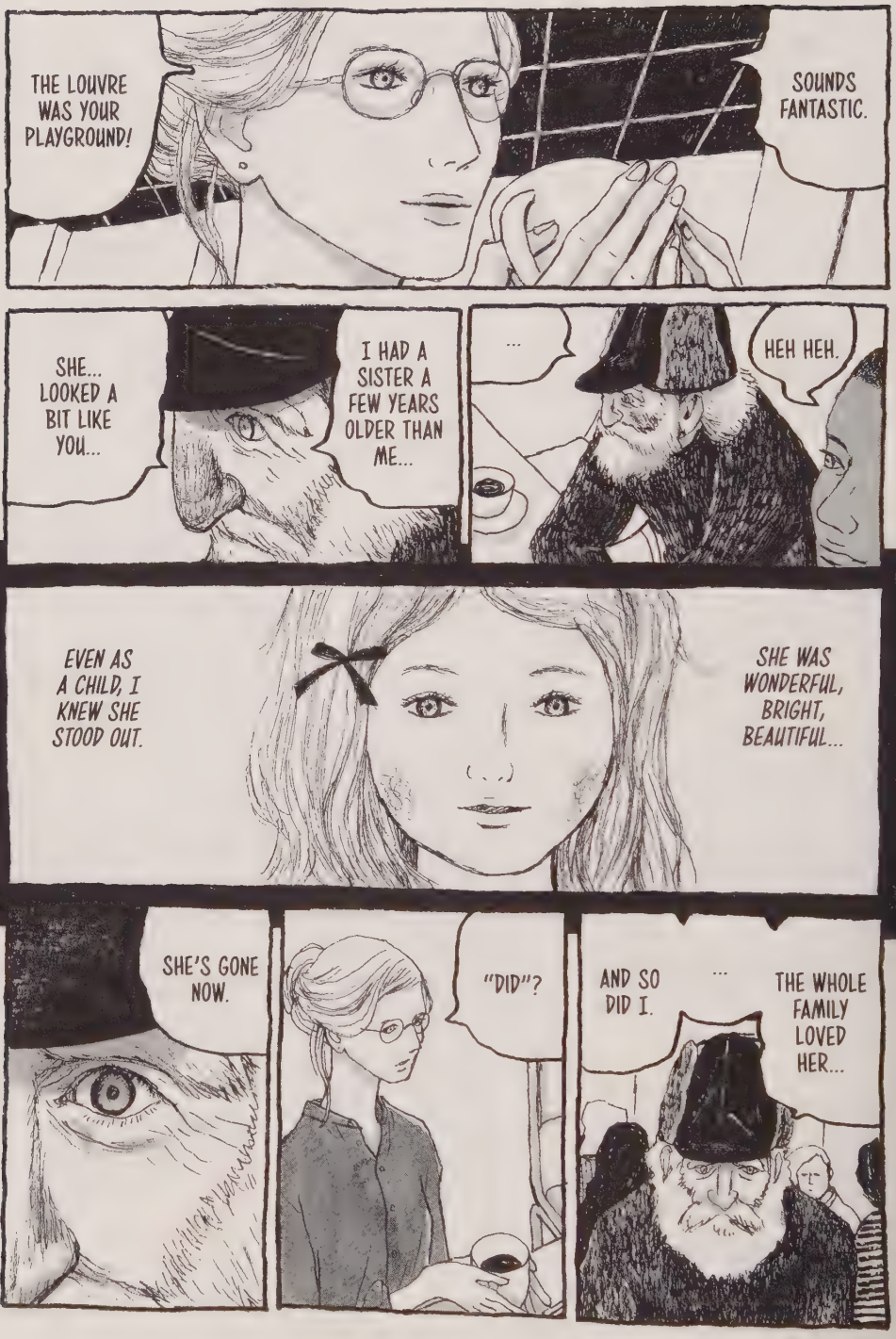

FINISHED FOR THE DAY?
HEY, CÉCILE.
WELL, WELL...
NO, I HAVE TWO TOURS THIS AFTERNOON.
CÉCILE!
SO YOU'D BETTER EAT UP!
YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT THAT.
THERE SHE IS.
HEY...

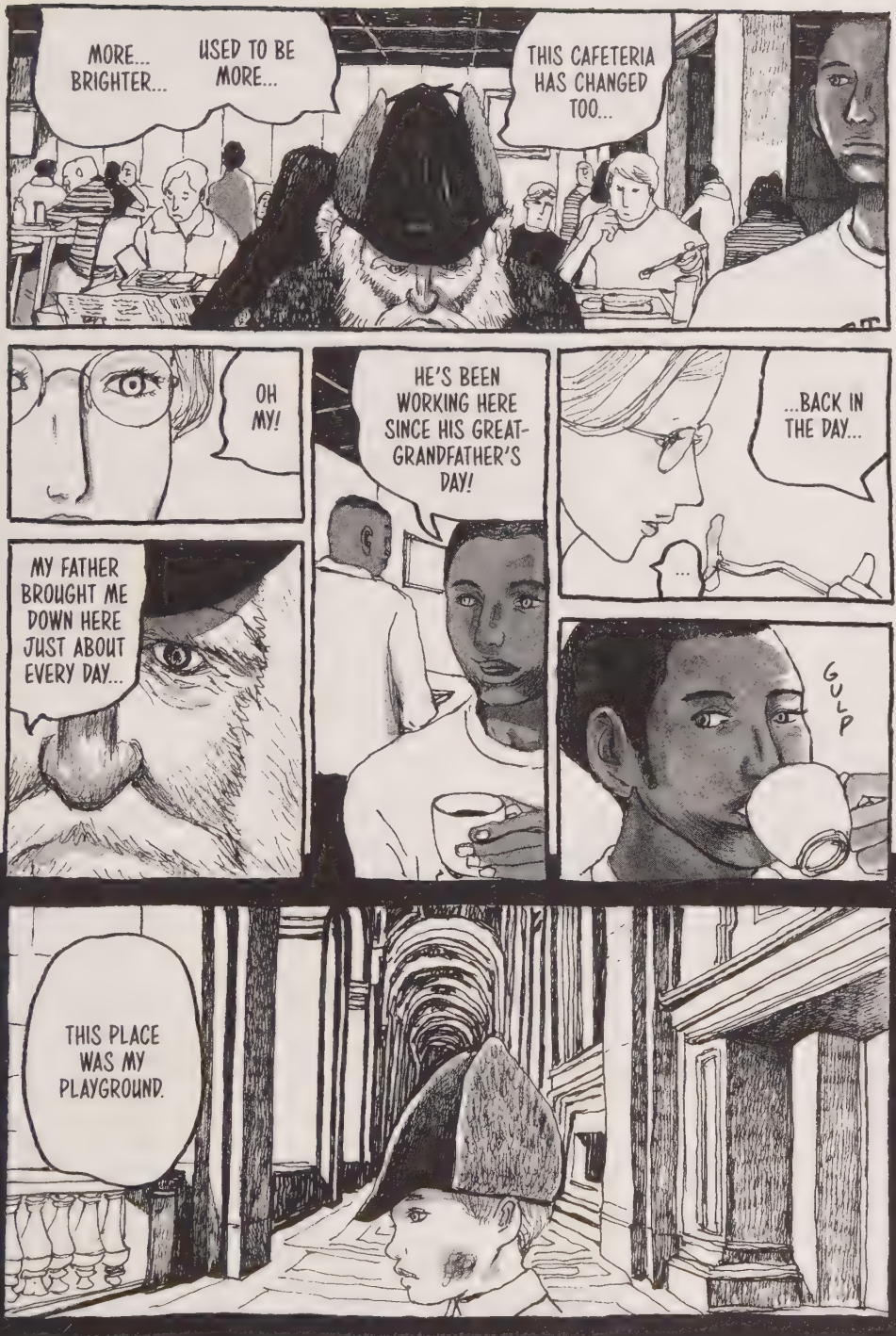
UMM...
UH...
HE SAYS THERE'S SOMETHING HE HAS TO TELL YOU.
UH... WELL... UM...
RIGHT?
MARCEL HAD...WELL... SOMETHING...
TELL ME...?
UMM ...


OH, HELLO.
THAT WAS A GREAT HELP.
THANKS FOR THE OTHER DAY!
YOUR COLLEAGUE SAID YOU MIGHT BE DOWN HERE.
WAS THERE SOMETHING ELSE?
...
THEIR PARENTS GAVE US A REAL LECTURE.
WELL...
DID YOU GET THOSE RASCALS HOME ALL RIGHT?
YEAH.
UH...

...
YOU BUYING?
SO HOW ABOUT WE GO FOR A DRINK?
Phew.
HA HA HA!
Sacrebleu...

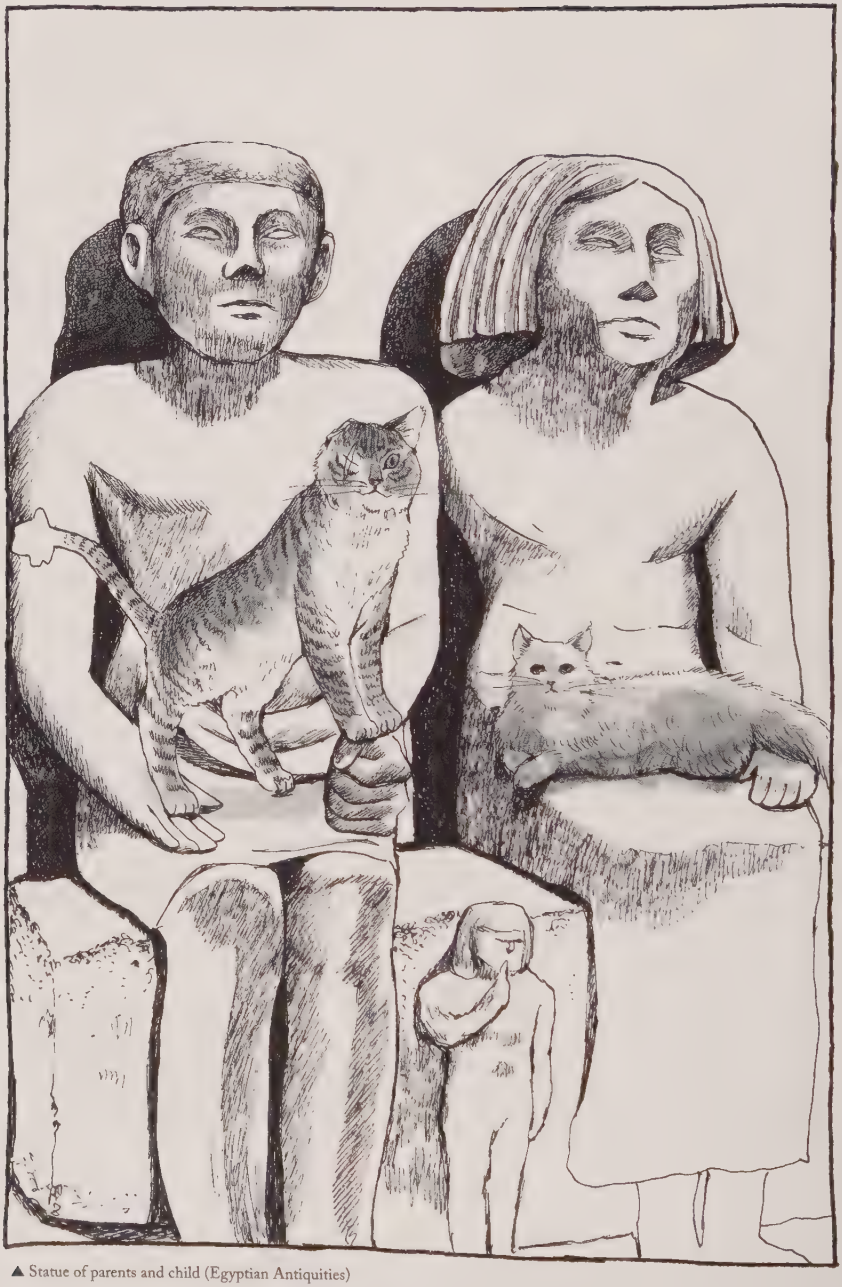

HEY.
ZZZZ
ZZZZ
HEY!
WAKE UP, SNOWBÉBÉ!!
ZZZZ
ZZZZ
WAKE UP!!!
SMACK
!
HA HA HA HA HA!
CHOMP


THE LOUVRE WAS YOUR PLAYGROUND!
SOUNDS FANTASTIC.
SHE... LOOKED A BIT LIKE YOU...
I HAD A SISTER A FEW YEARS OLDER THAN ME...
...
HEH HEH.
EVEN AS A CHILD, I KNEW SHE STOOD OUT.
SHE WAS WONDERFUL, BRIGHT, BEAUTIFUL...
SHE'S GONE NOW.
"DID"?
AND SO DID I.
...
THE WHOLE FAMILY LOVED HER...


MORE... BRIGHTER...
USED TO BE MORE...
THIS CAFETERIA HAS CHANGED TOO...
OH MY!
HE'S BEEN WORKING HERE SINCE HIS GREAT-GRANDFATHER'S DAY!
...BACK IN THE DAY...
...
MY FATHER BROUGHT ME DOWN HERE JUST ABOUT EVERY DAY...
GULP
THIS PLACE WAS MY PLAYGROUND.

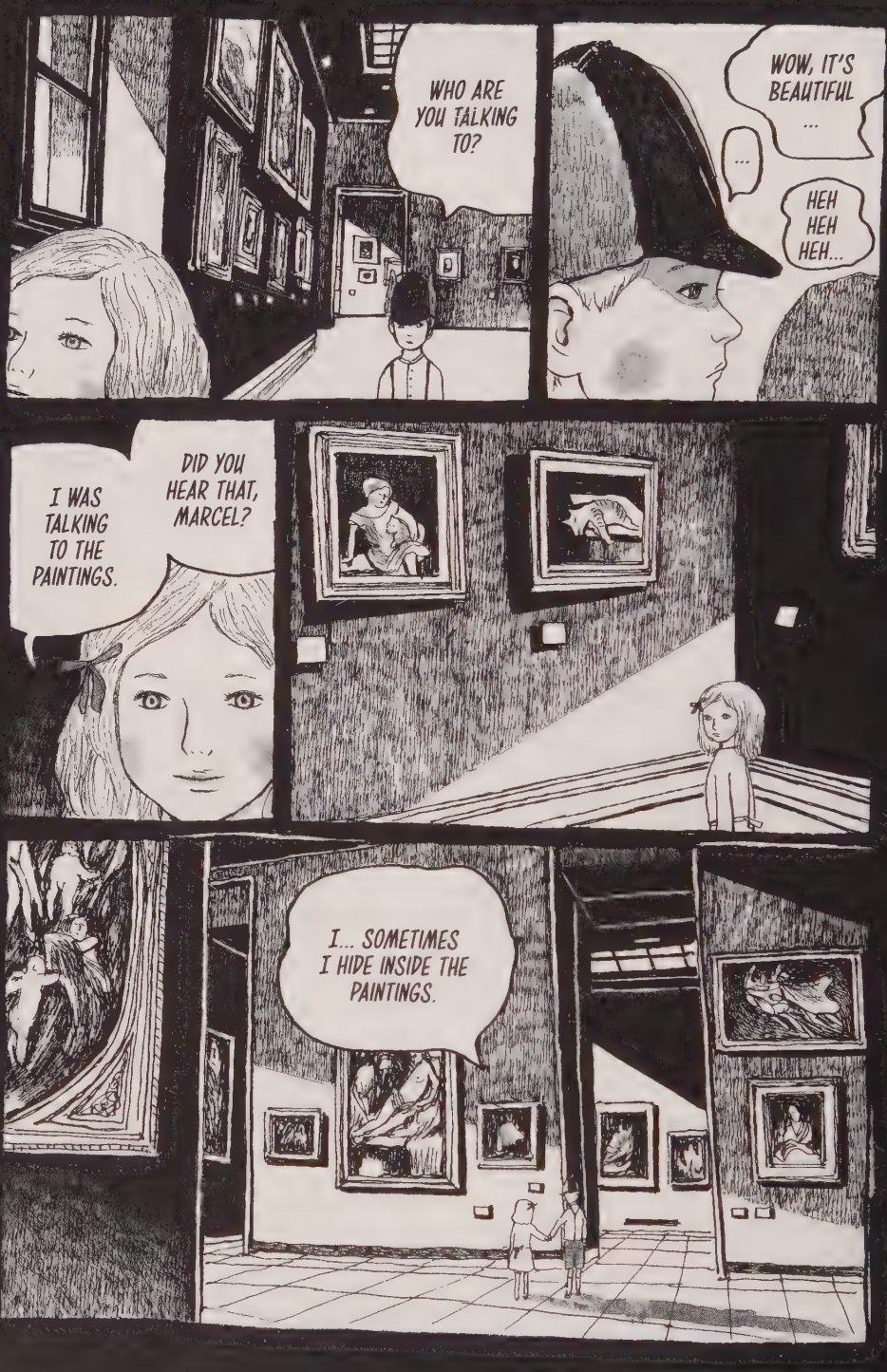
CHAPTER 5

The Secret of Marcel



▲ Statue of parents and child (Egyptian Antiquities)

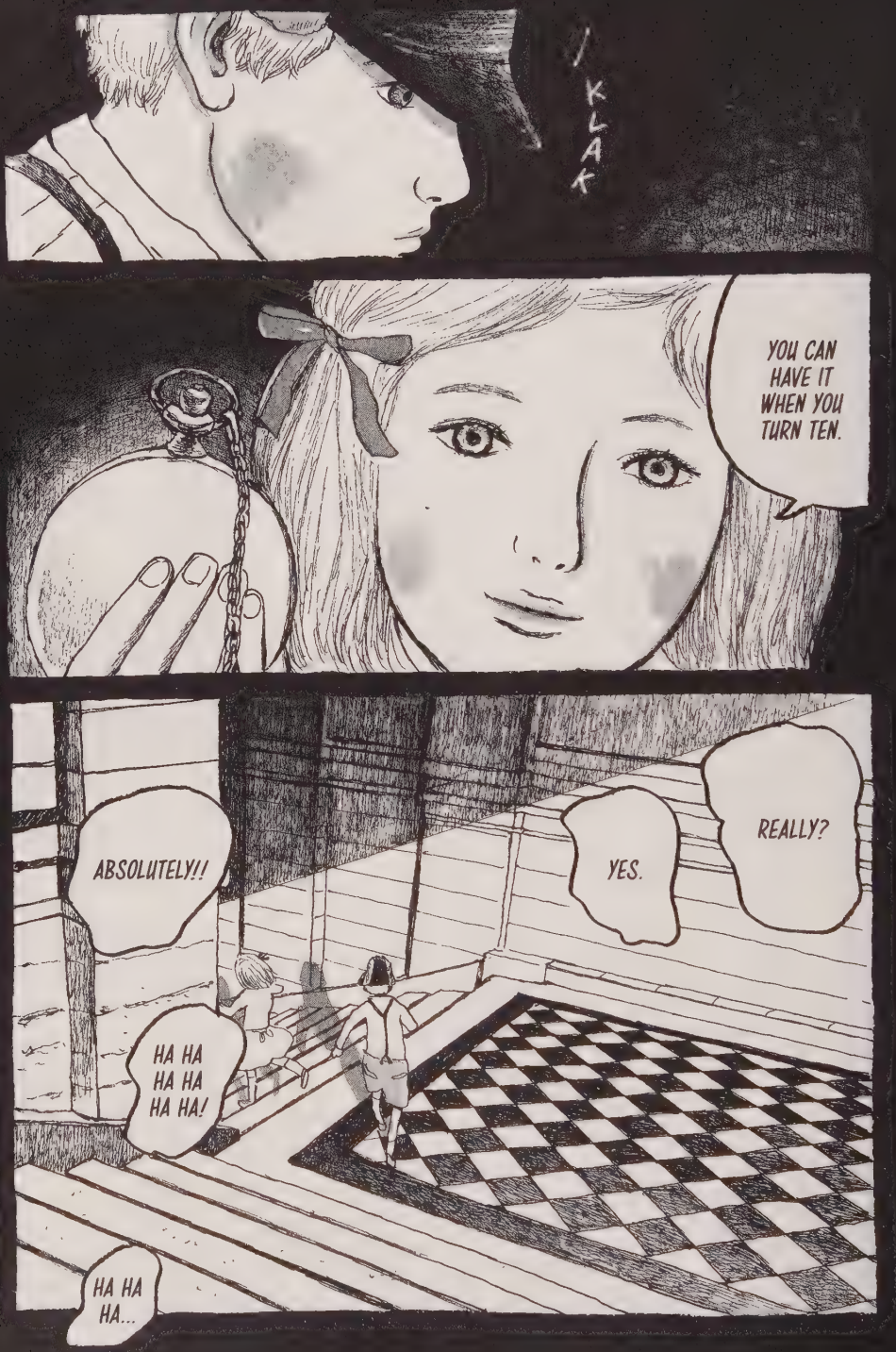
HERE, IN THE LOUVRE...
ONE DAY SHE JUST DISAPPEARED...

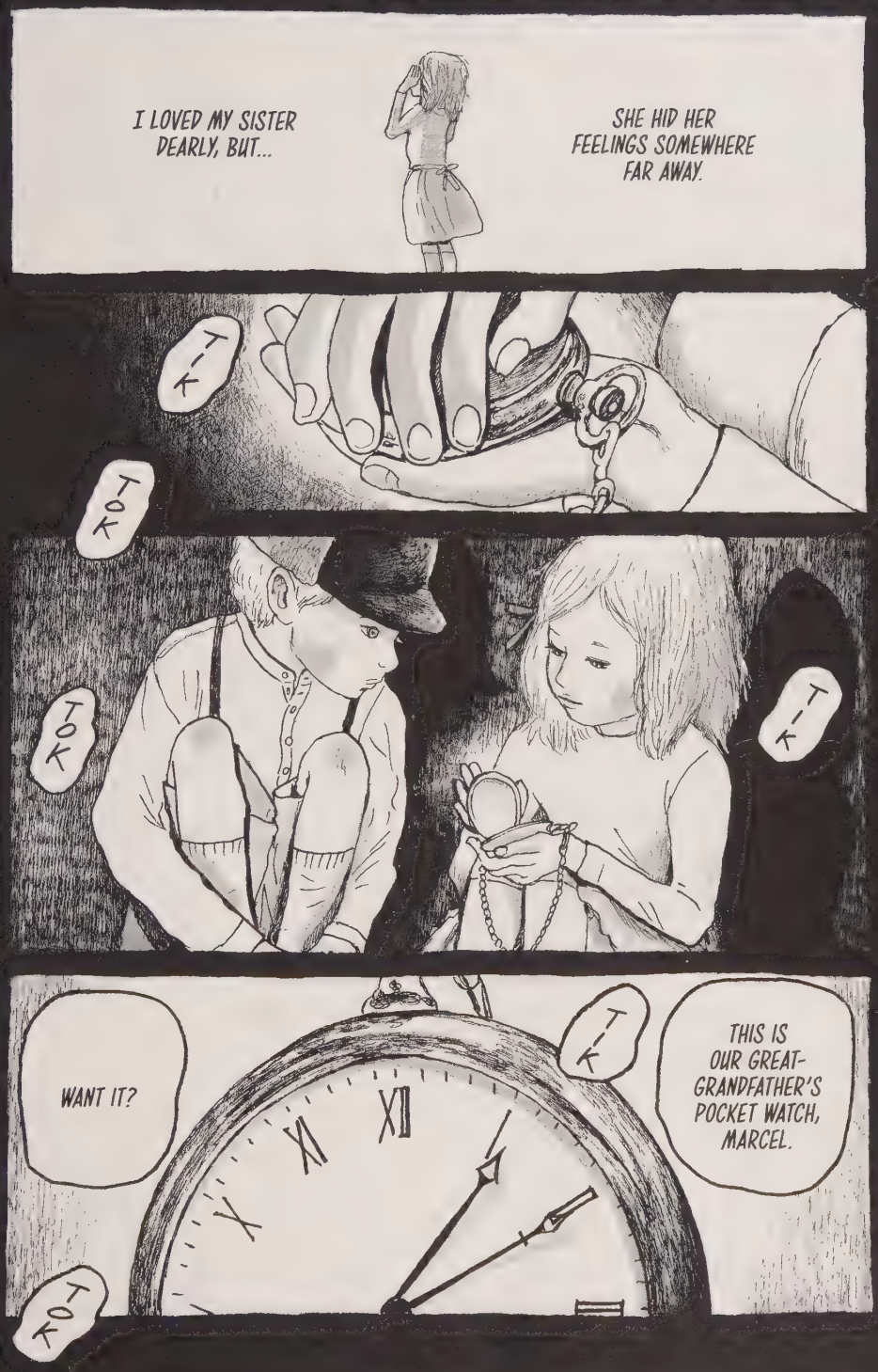

WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?
WOW, IT'S BEAUTIFUL ...
...
HEH HEH HEH...
DID YOU HEAR THAT, MARCEL?
I WAS TALKING TO THE PAINTINGS.
I... SOMETIMES I HIDE INSIDE THE PAINTINGS.

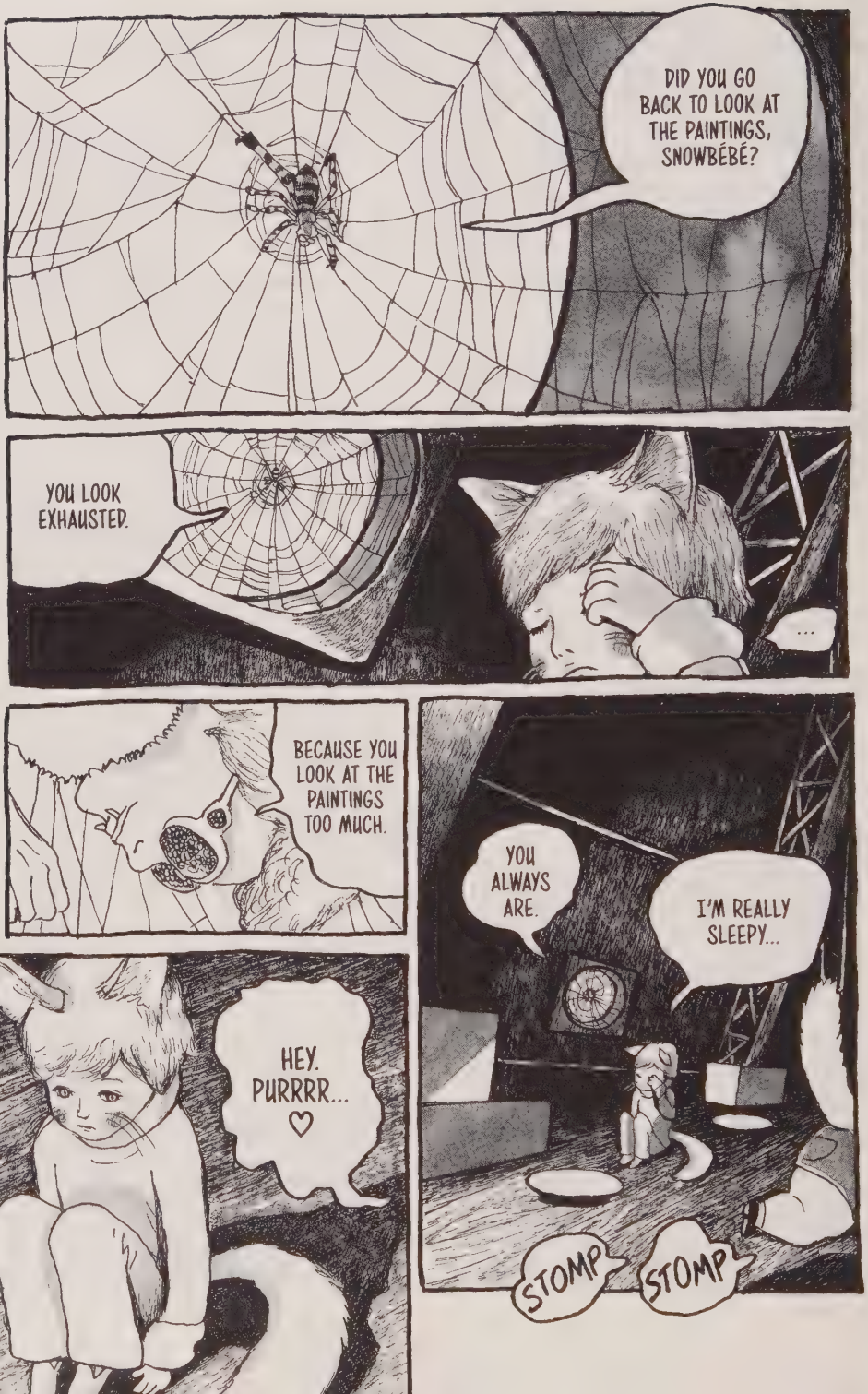
I WAS ALWAYS WITH MY SISTER...
IT HAPPENED ABOUT 50 YEARS AGO...
HEH HEH HEH.
TEE HEE HEE.
TEE HEE HEE.
REALLY?
HEH HEH HEH.
WOW...
WHERE ARE YOU?
ARRIETA?

SOMETIMES IT SCARED ME...
SHE WAS ALWAYS TALKING TO THE PAINTINGS, TO VOICES NO ONE COULD HEAR.
...
SOUNDS LIKE YOUR SISTER WAS UNIQUE. HA HA.
WELL, SHE CERTAINLY WAS UNIQUE.
ER, I DIDN'T MEAN THAT IN A BAD WAY...
SHE ONLY LAUGHED WHEN TALKING TO THE PAINTINGS...
SHE DIDN'T REALLY GET ALONG WITH THE OTHER KIDS...

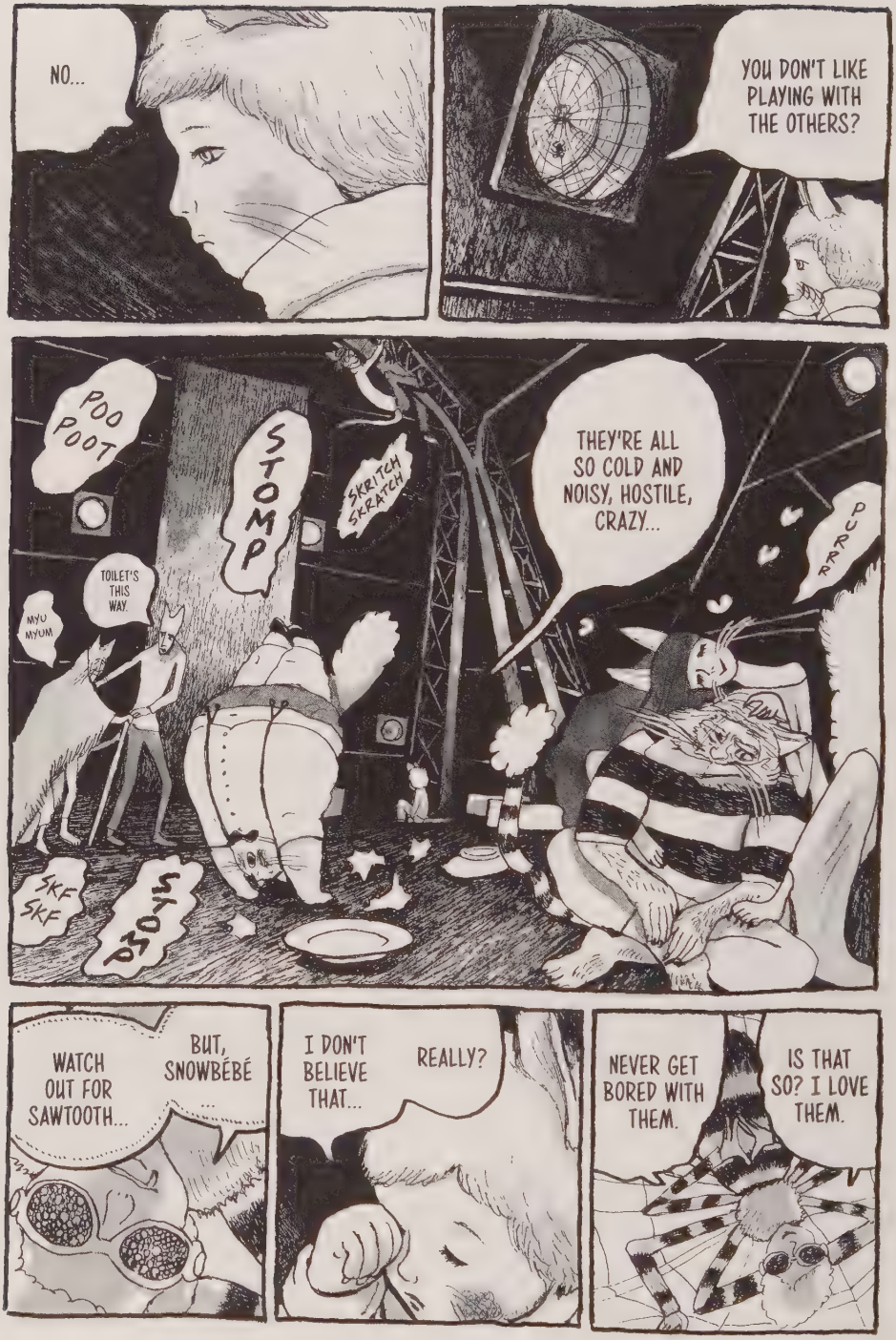
EVERYONE THOUGHT I WAS HER OLDER BROTHER.
MY SISTER ARRIETA STOPPED GROWING WHEN SHE WAS YOUNG.
"CAN YOU HEAR THE VOICES OF THE PAINTINGS?"
SO WE WERE ALWAYS HERE, PLAYING.
MY FATHER WAS A CARPENTER WORKING ON THE LOUVRE'S RESTORATION.
THAT'S WHAT MY SISTER ALWAYS USED TO ASK ME.

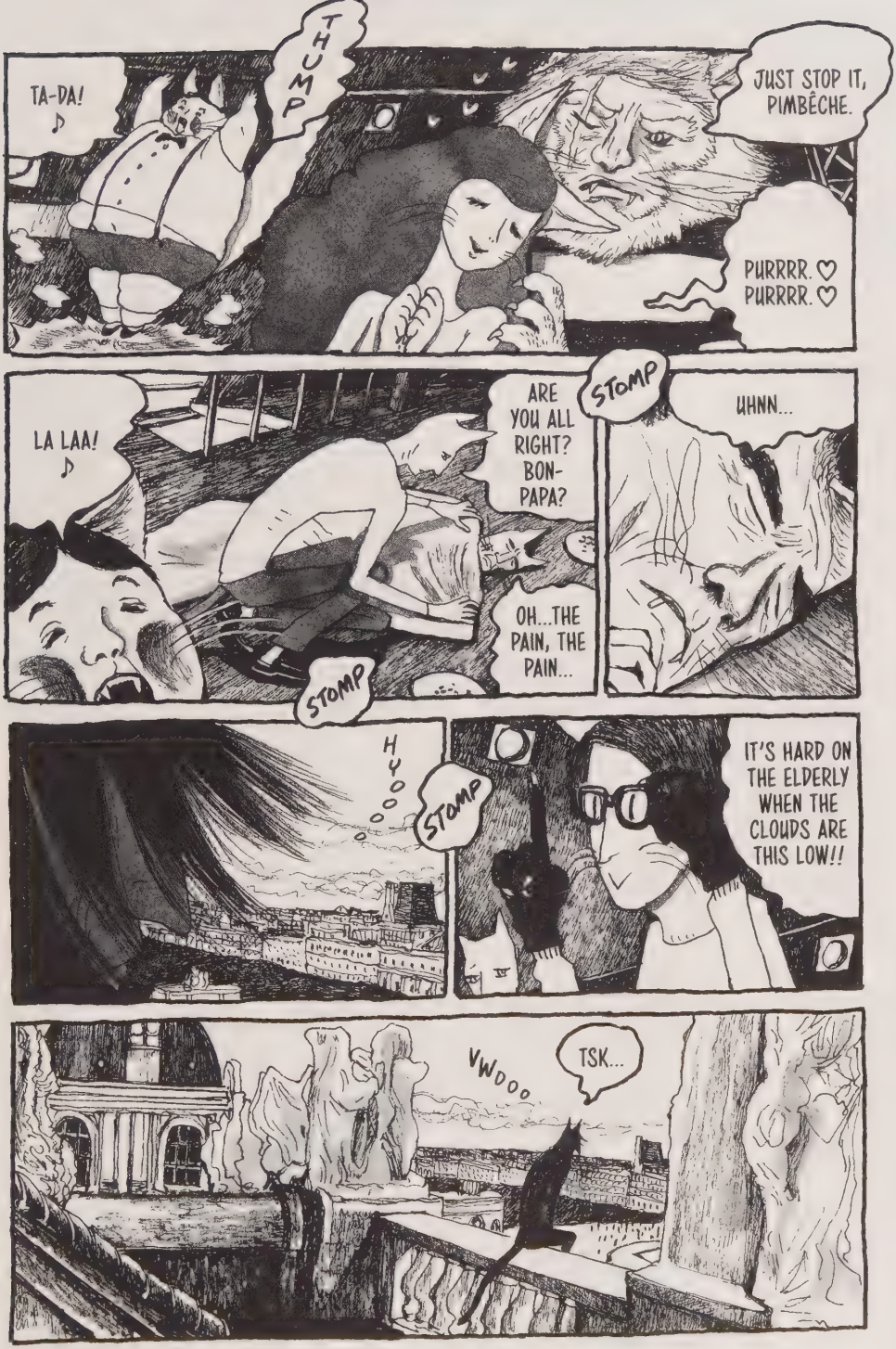

KLAK
YOU CAN HAVE IT WHEN YOU TURN TEN.
REALLY?
YES.
ABSOLUTELY!!
HA HA HA HA HA HA!
HA HA HA...

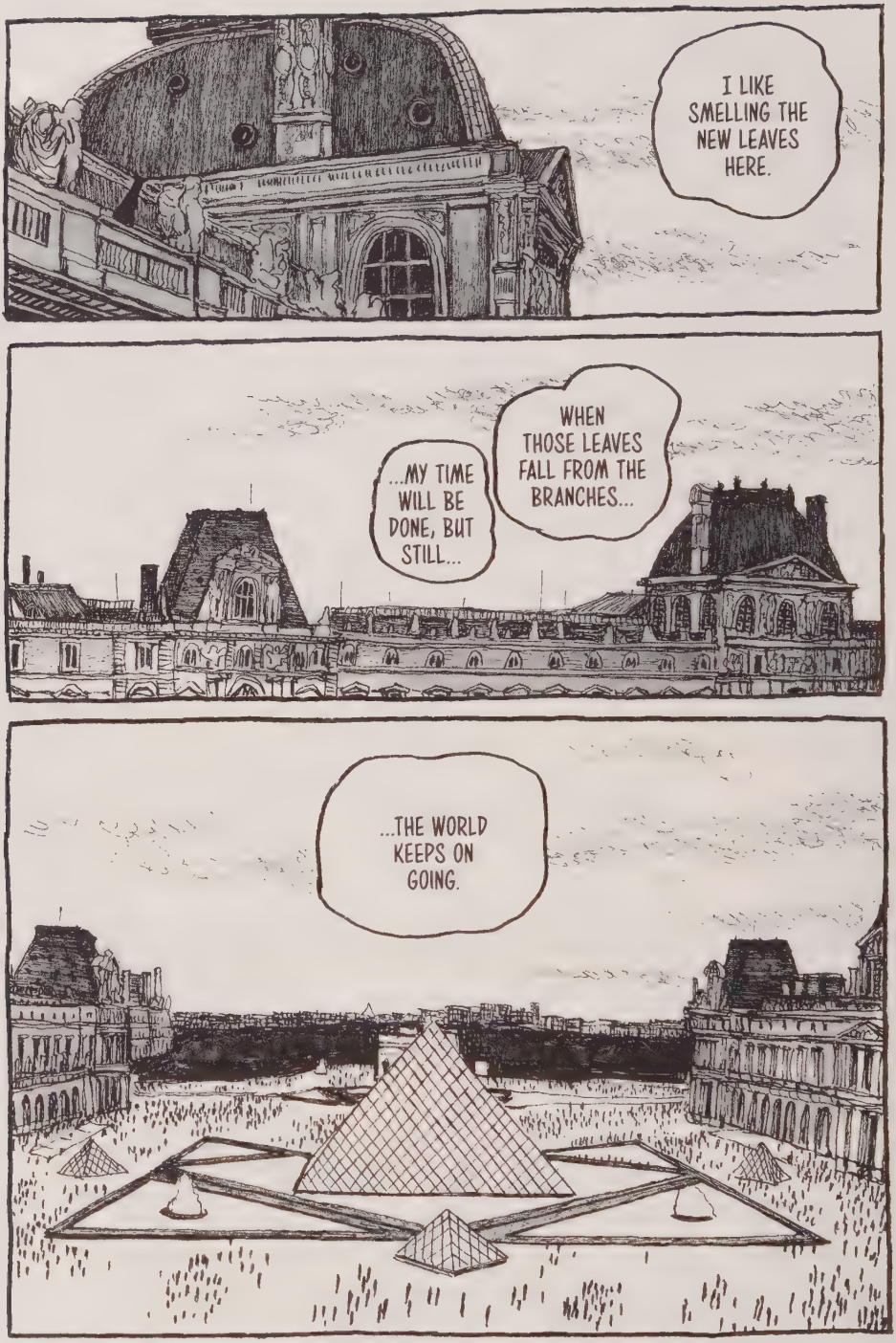

I LOVED MY SISTER DEARLY, BUT...
SHE HID HER FEELINGS SOMEWHERE FAR AWAY.
TIK
TOK
TOK
TIK
WANT IT?
TIK
THIS IS OUR GREAT-GRANDFATHER'S POCKET WATCH, MARCEL.
TOK

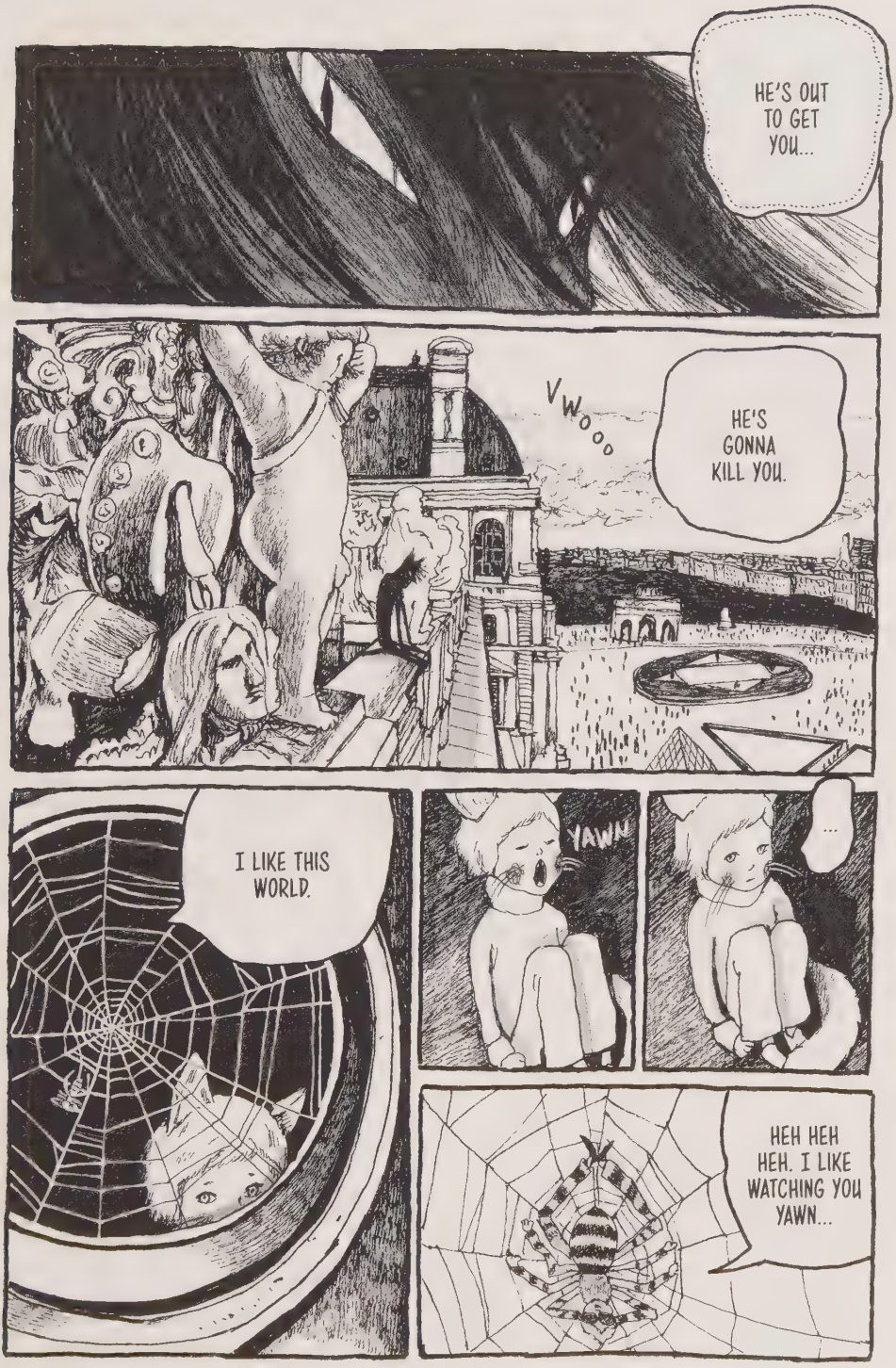

DID YOU GO BACK TO LOOK AT THE PAINTINGS, SNOWBÉBÉ?
YOU LOOK EXHAUSTED.
...
BECAUSE YOU LOOK AT THE PAINTINGS TOO MUCH.
YOU ALWAYS ARE.
I'M REALLY SLEEPY...
HEY. PURRRR... ♡
STOMP
STOMP

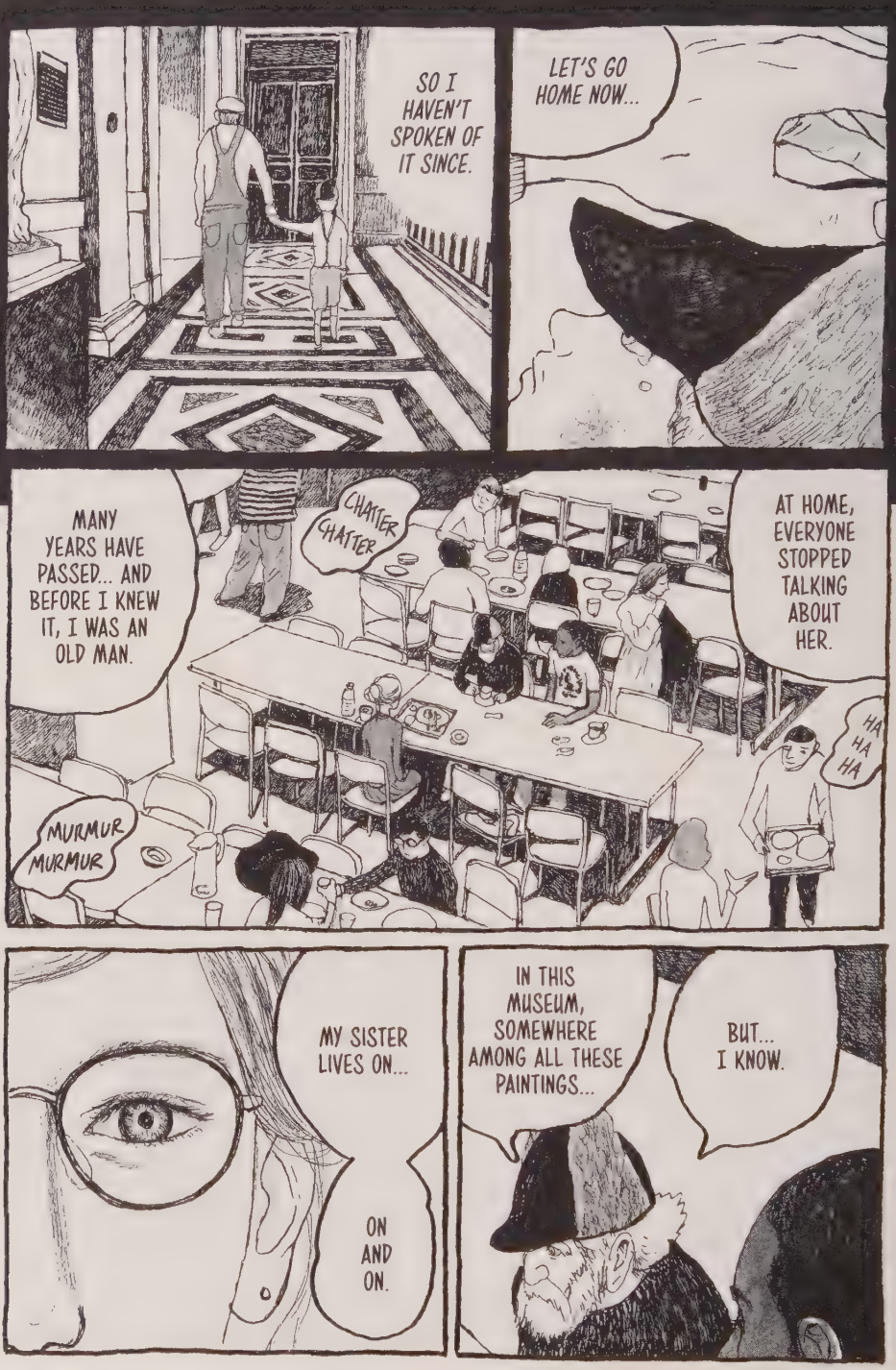
AND THEN SOON AFTER THAT SHE VANISHED.
HA HA HA.
HA HA HA.
BUT THEY NEVER FOUND HER.
...
CHATTER
CHATTER
I JUST KEPT ON PLAYING...
MURMUR MURMUR
HA HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA
KLINK KLINK

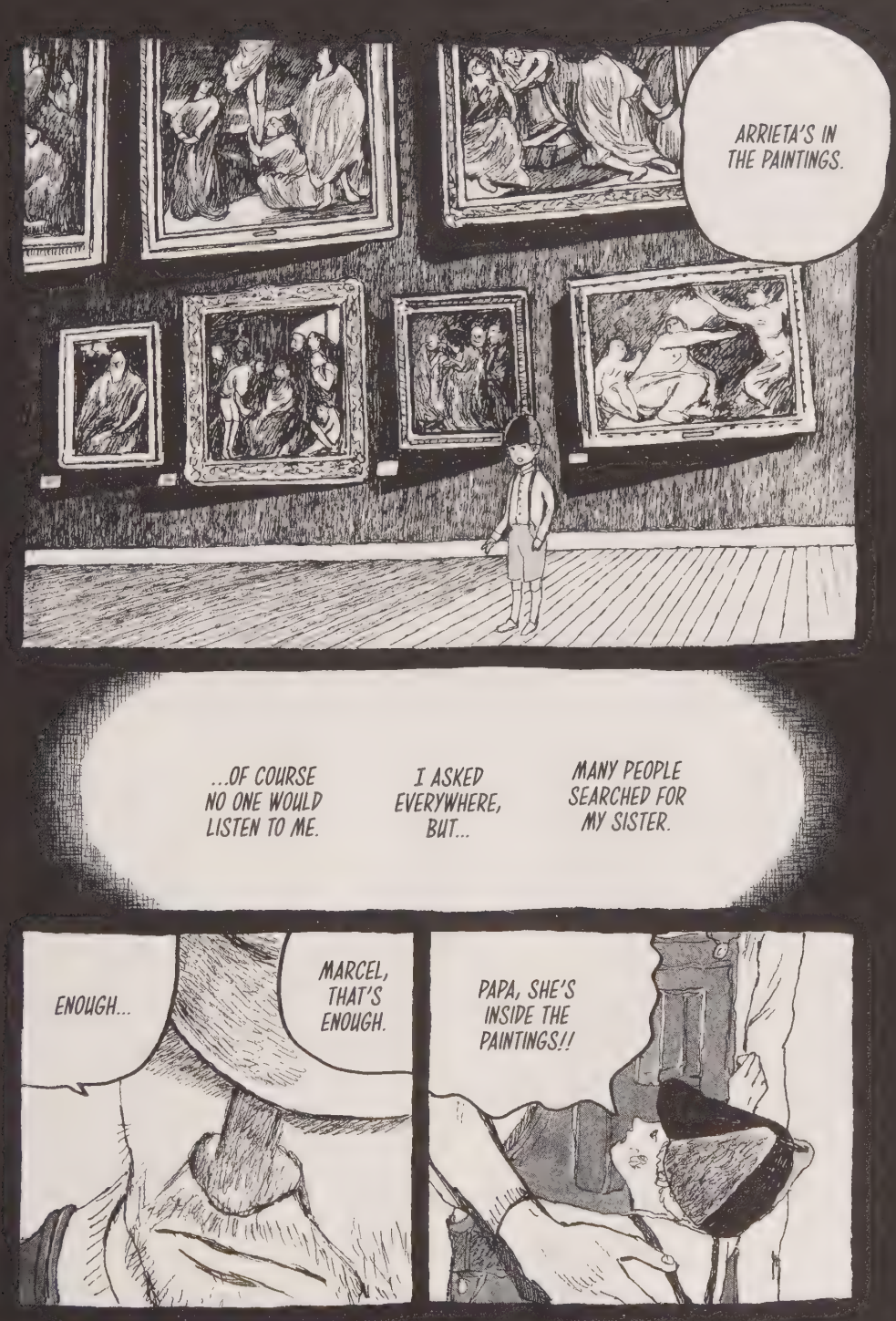

NO...
YOU DON'T LIKE PLAYING WITH THE OTHERS?
POO POOT
STOMP
SKRITCH SKRATCH
THEY'RE ALL SO COLD AND NOISY, HOSTILE, CRAZY...
DURRR
TOILET'S THIS WAY.
MYU MYUM
SKF SKF
STOP
WATCH OUT FOR SAWTOOTH...
BUT, SNOWBÉBÉ ...
I DON'T BELIEVE THAT...
REALLY?
NEVER GET BORED WITH THEM.
IS THAT SO? I LOVE THEM.

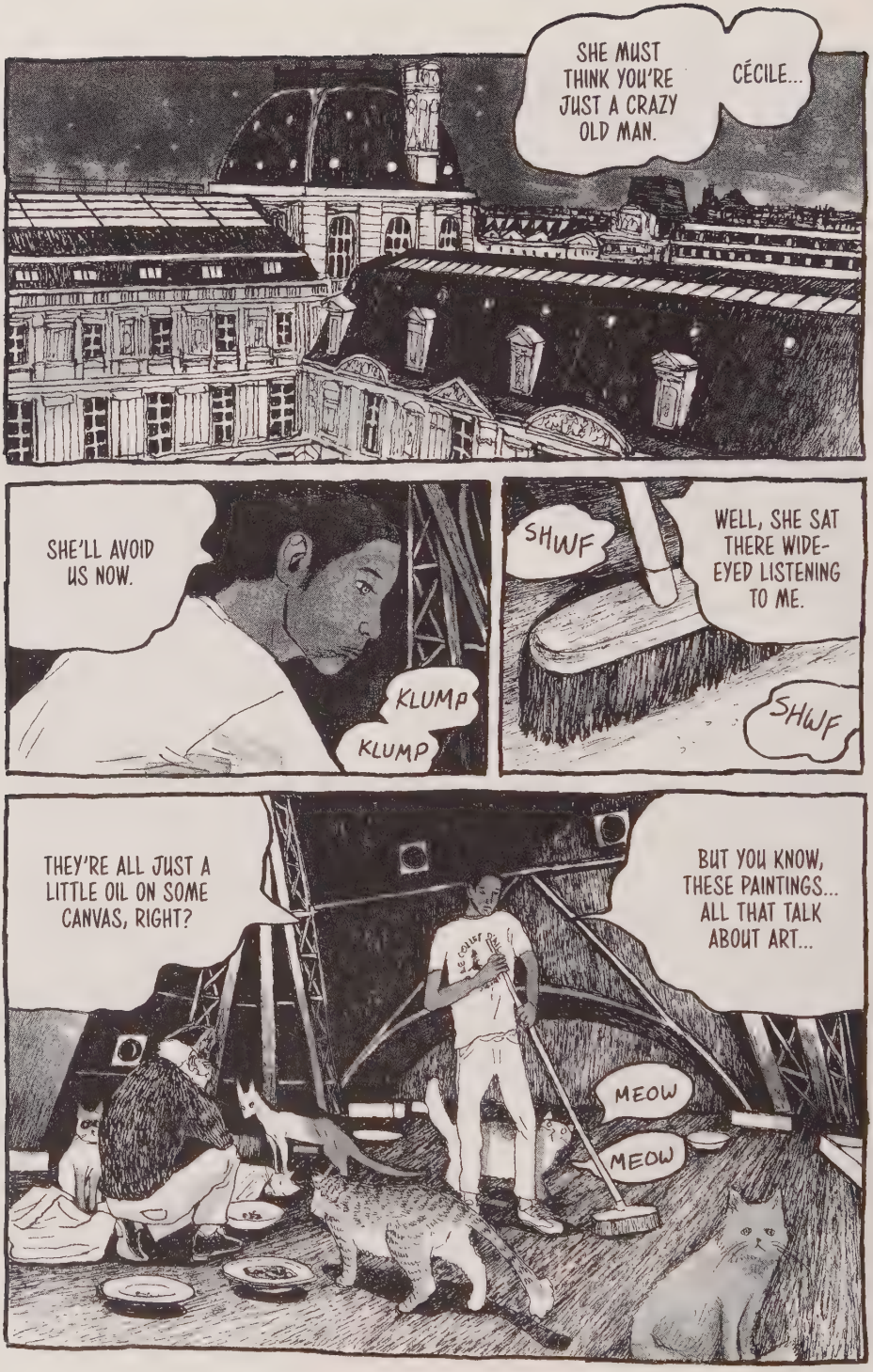

TA-DA! ♪
THUMP
JUST STOP IT, PIMBÊCHE.
PURRRR. ♡ PURRRR. ♡
LA LAA! ♪
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? BON-PAPA?
OH...THE PAIN, THE PAIN...
STOMP
STOMP
UHNN...
HYOOO
STOMP
IT'S HARD ON THE ELDERLY WHEN THE CLOUDS ARE THIS LOW!!
VWDOO
TSK...

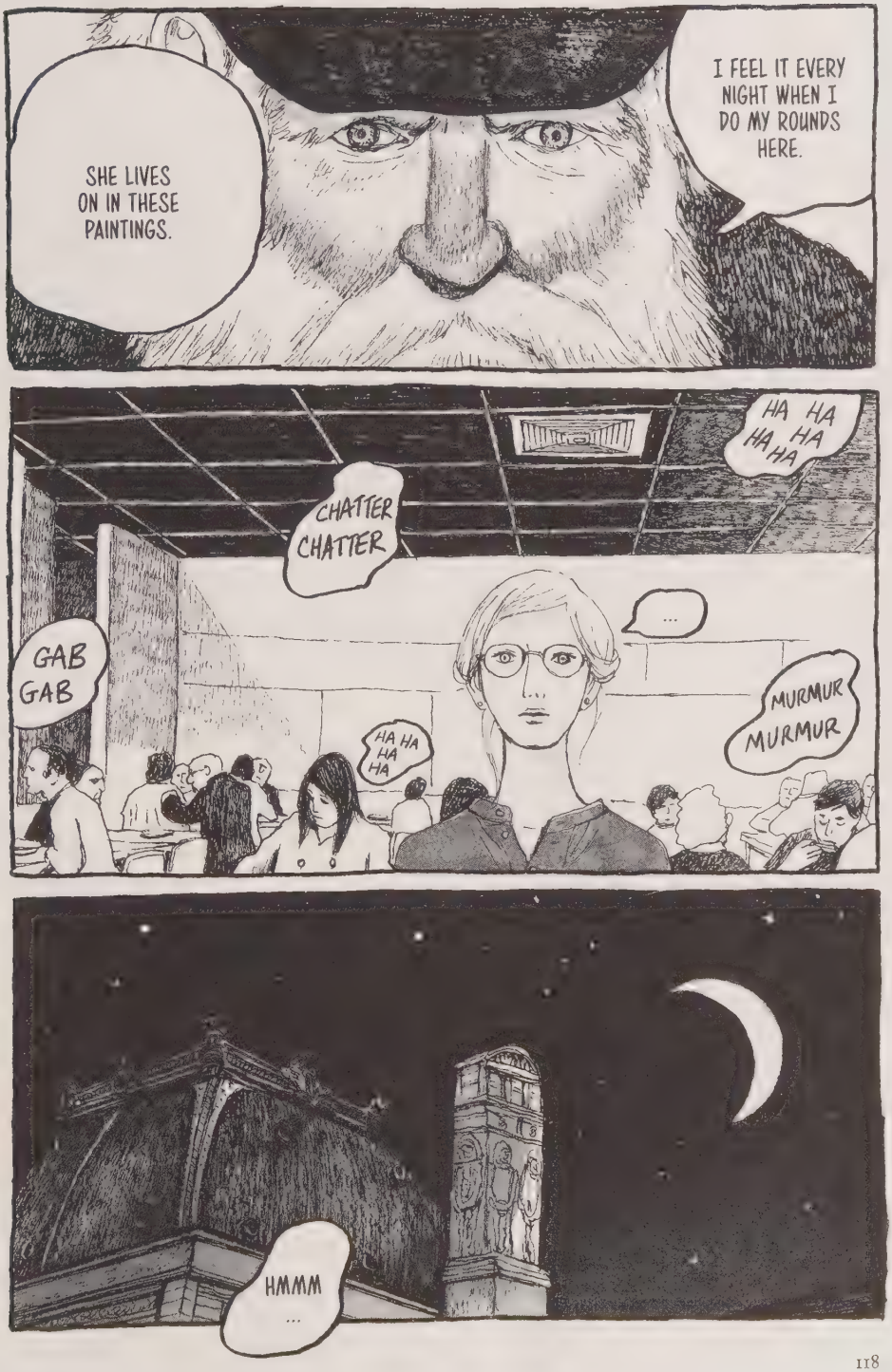

I LIKE SMELLING THE NEW LEAVES HERE.
WHEN THOSE LEAVES FALL FROM THE BRANCHES...
...MY TIME WILL BE DONE, BUT STILL...
...THE WORLD KEEPS ON GOING.

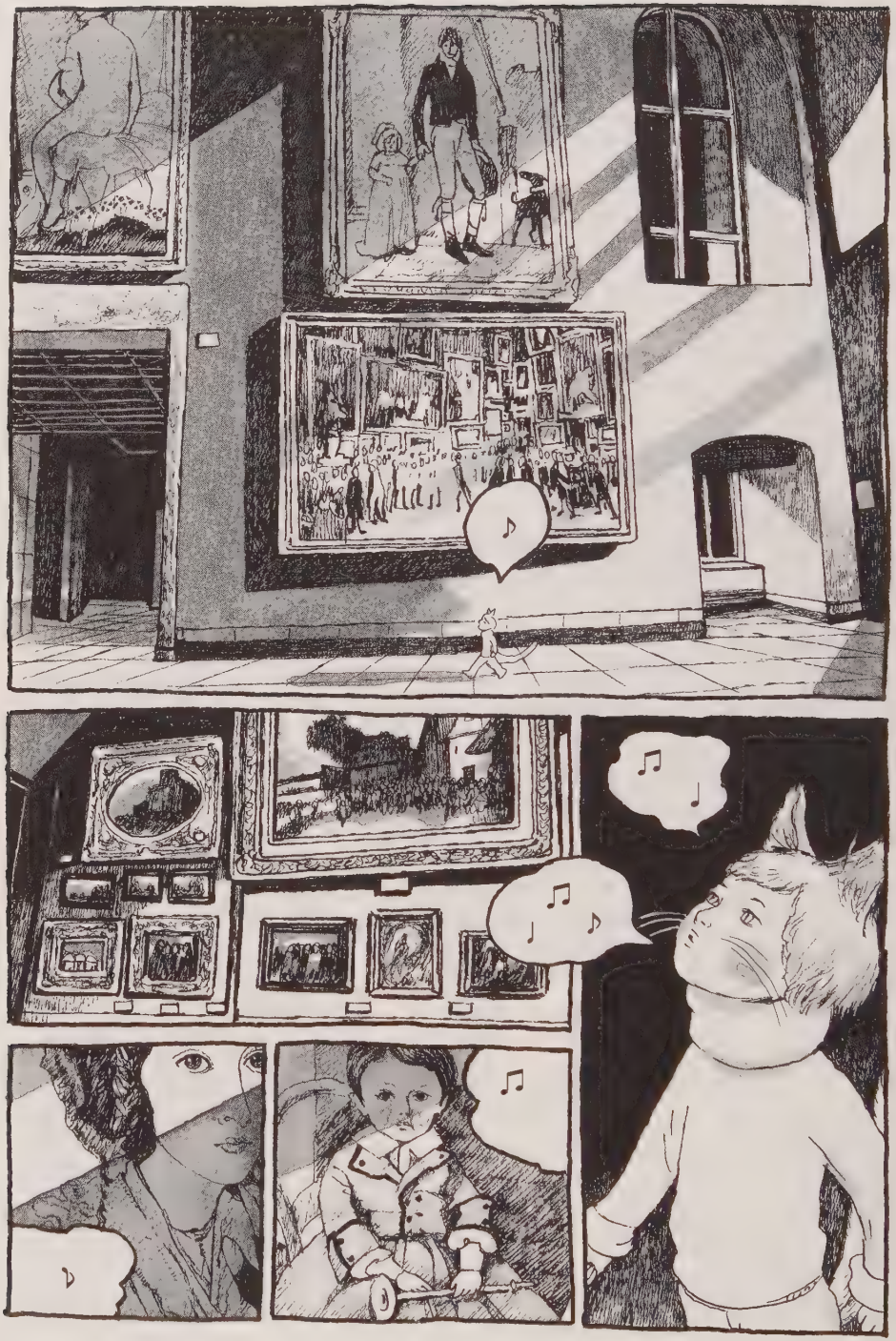

HE'S OUT TO GET YOU...
VWOOO
HE'S GONNA KILL YOU.
I LIKE THIS WORLD.
YAWN
...
HEH HEH HEH. I LIKE WATCHING YOU YAWN...


SO I HAVEN'T SPOKEN OF IT SINCE.
LET'S GO HOME NOW...
MANY YEARS HAVE PASSED... AND BEFORE I KNEW IT, I WAS AN OLD MAN.
CHATTER CHATTER
AT HOME, EVERYONE STOPPED TALKING ABOUT HER.
HA HA HA
MURMUR MURMUR
MY SISTER LIVES ON...
ON AND ON.
IN THIS MUSEUM, SOMEWHERE AMONG ALL THESE PAINTINGS...
BUT... I KNOW.


ARRIETA'S IN THE PAINTINGS.
...OF COURSE NO ONE WOULD LISTEN TO ME.
I ASKED EVERYWHERE, BUT...
MANY PEOPLE SEARCHED FOR MY SISTER.
ENOUGH...
MARCEL, THAT'S ENOUGH.
PAPA, SHE'S INSIDE THE PAINTINGS!!


SHE MUST THINK YOU'RE JUST A CRAZY OLD MAN.
CÉCILE...
SHE'LL AVOID US NOW.
KLUMP
KLUMP
SHWF
WELL, SHE SAT THERE WIDE-EYED LISTENING TO ME.
SHWF
THEY'RE ALL JUST A LITTLE OIL ON SOME CANVAS, RIGHT?
BUT YOU KNOW, THESE PAINTINGS... ALL THAT TALK ABOUT ART...
MEOW
MEOW


SHE LIVES ON IN THESE PAINTINGS.
I FEEL IT EVERY NIGHT WHEN I DO MY ROUNDS HERE.
HA HA HA HA HA
CHATTER CHATTER
GAB GAB
HA HA HA HA
...
MURMUR MURMUR
HMMM ...



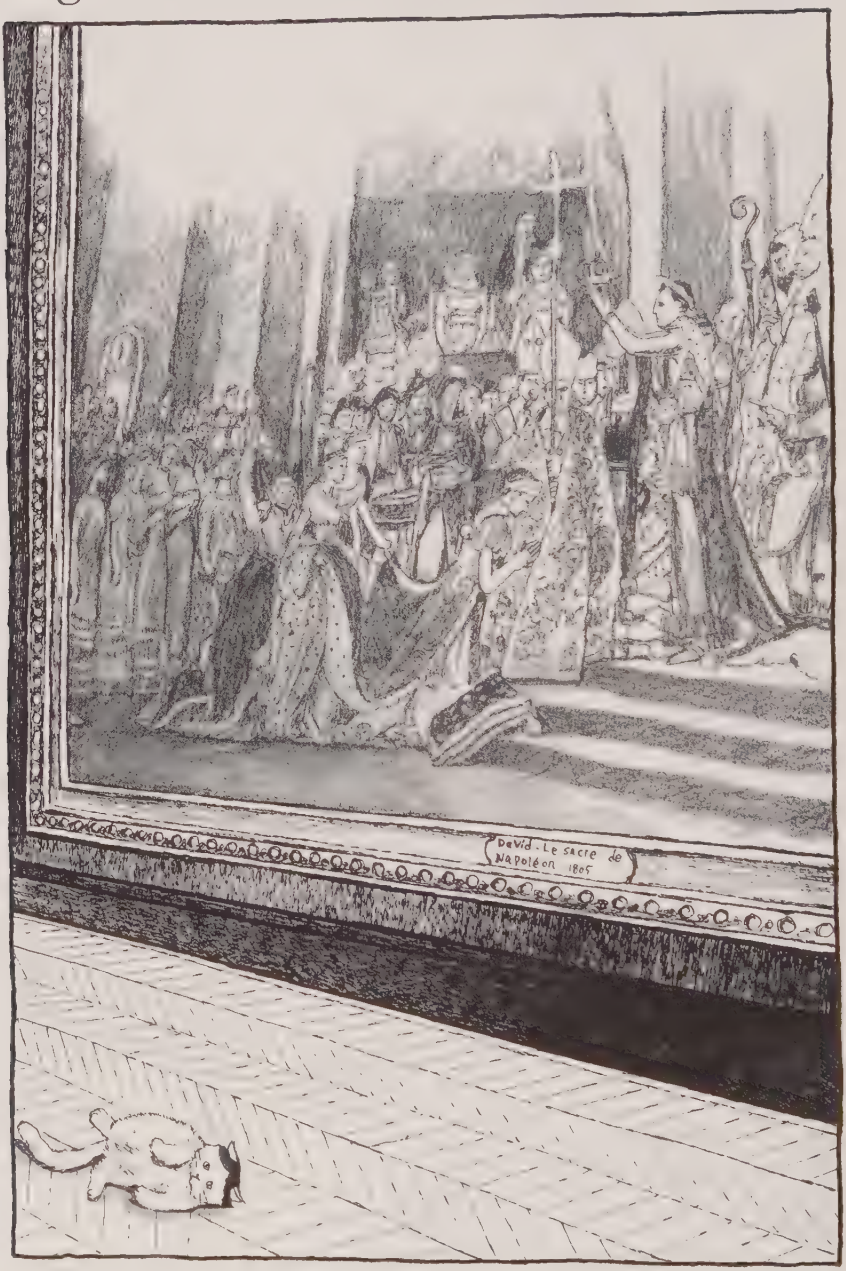
THE WHITE ONE'S MISSING AGAIN...
HEY...
AH, GEEZ, GET OUTTA THE WAY, YOU!! SCRAM!
THERE'S NO WAY TO ACTUALLY GET INSIDE THEM.
PURRR
MEOW
LITTLE WHITE CAT! WHERE ARE YOU?
Damn.
...
HEY, WHITEY—!

SKRITCH

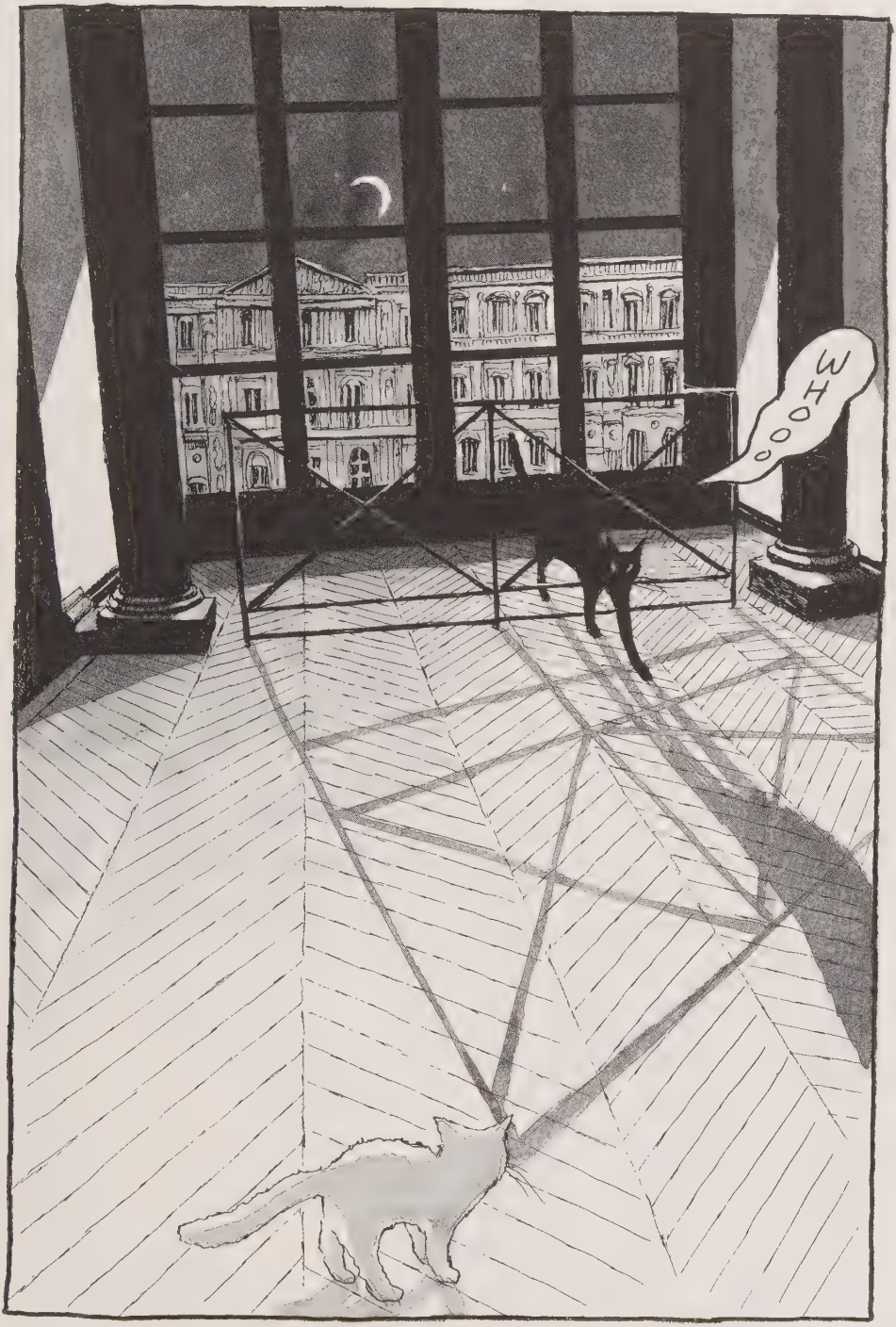
DANGER'S COMING
DANGER
...
THE SHADOW...
FLEE...
IT'S COMING
BLACK... SHADOW...
HWOOO

CHAPTER 6

The Secret of the Night of the Crescent Moon



▲ Jacques-Louis David, *The Consecration of the Emperor Napoleon and the Coronation of Empress Joséphine on December 2, 1804*

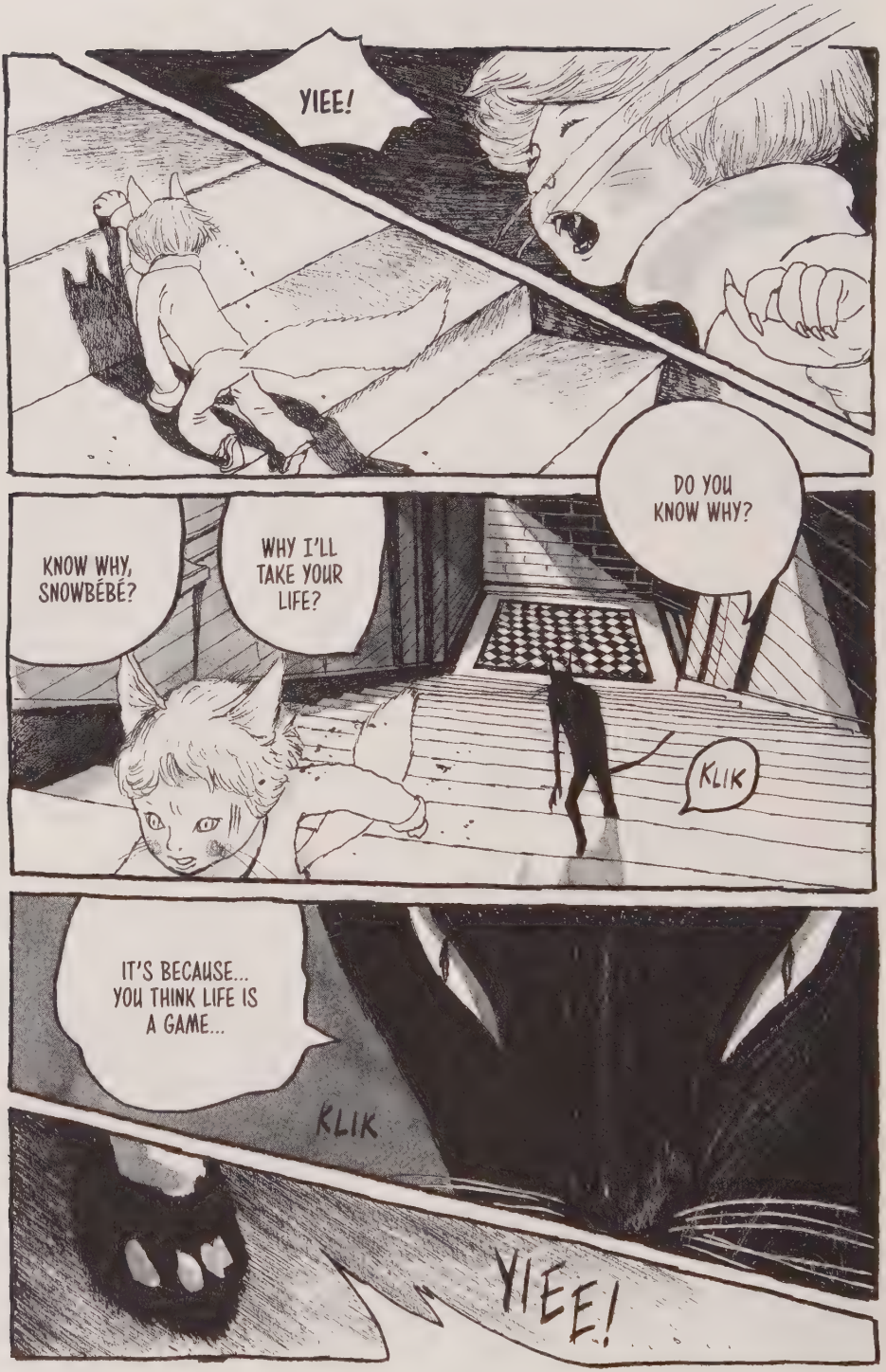

WHOOO

DASH
THAT'S RIGHT!!
I CAME DOWN HERE TO KILL YOU...

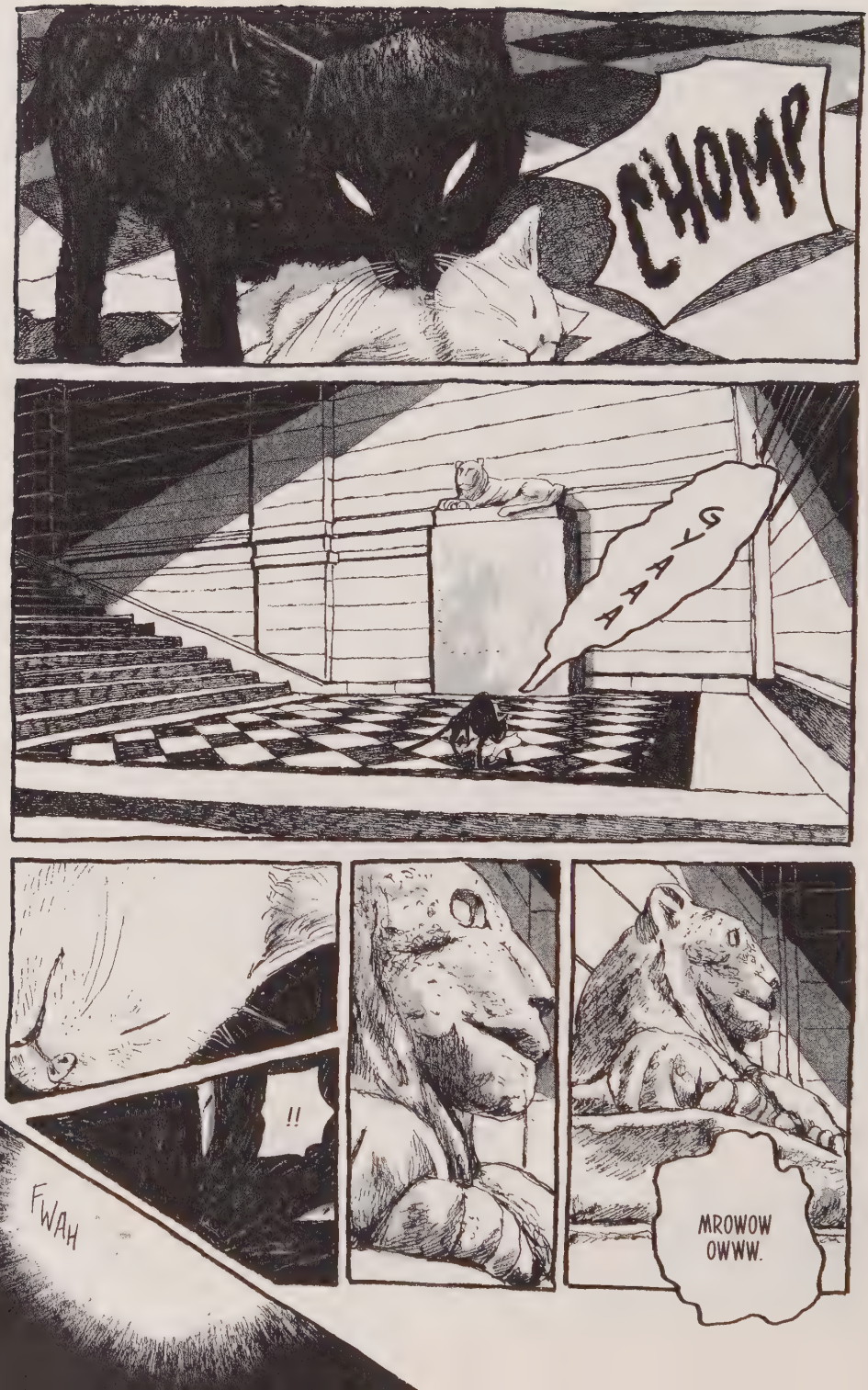
YOU DO KNOW, DON'T YOU, SNOWBÉBÉ?
YOU KNOW WHY I'M HERE...
KLIK
TMP

HM?
BONSOIR!
THOUGHT I HEARD A CAT...
WHAT?
...
HOW'RE YOU DOING?
MARCEL, PATRICK—GOOD EVENING.
YO!
GOOD EVENING! LOOKS LIKE HARD WORK.
PYTHON

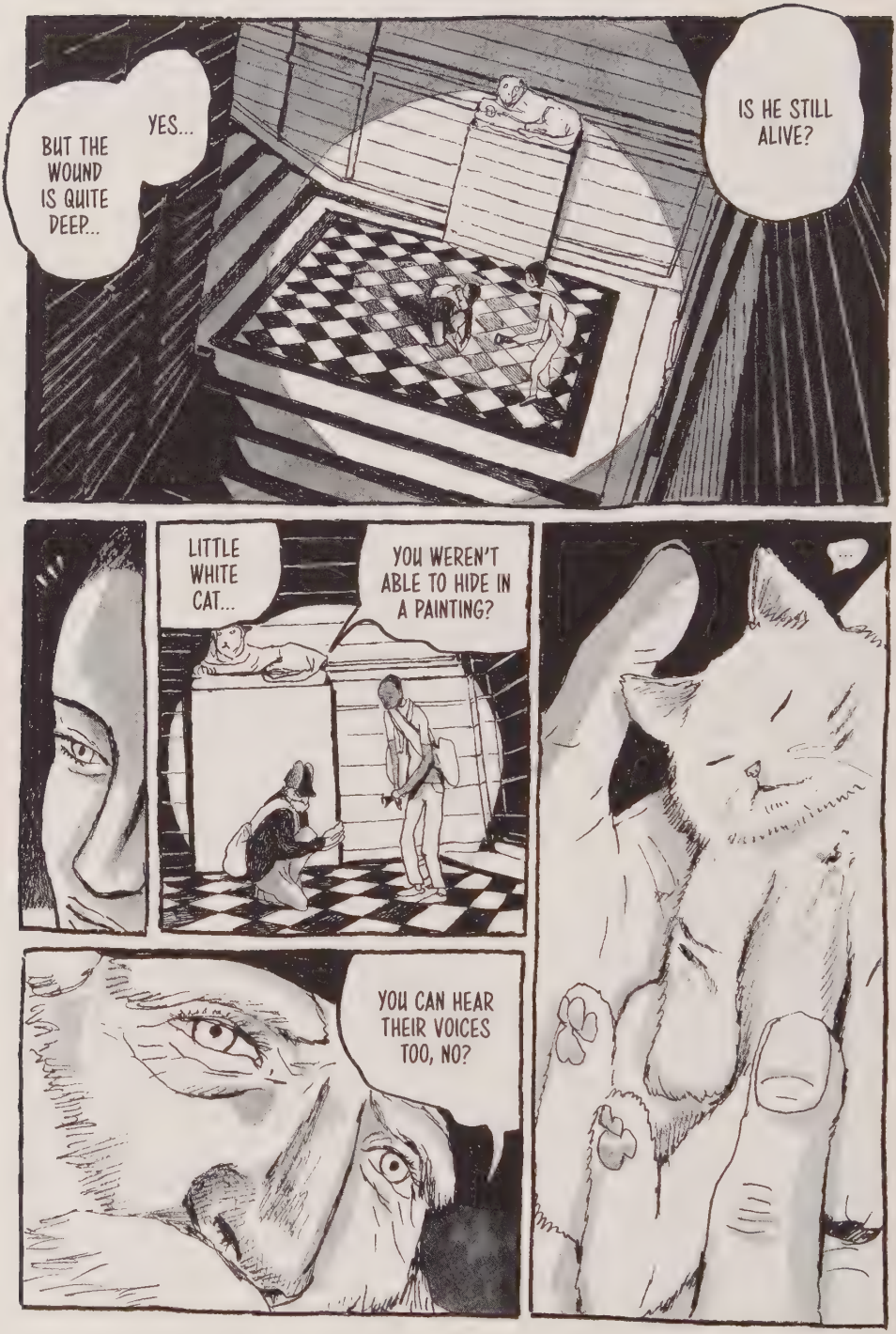
FWSH

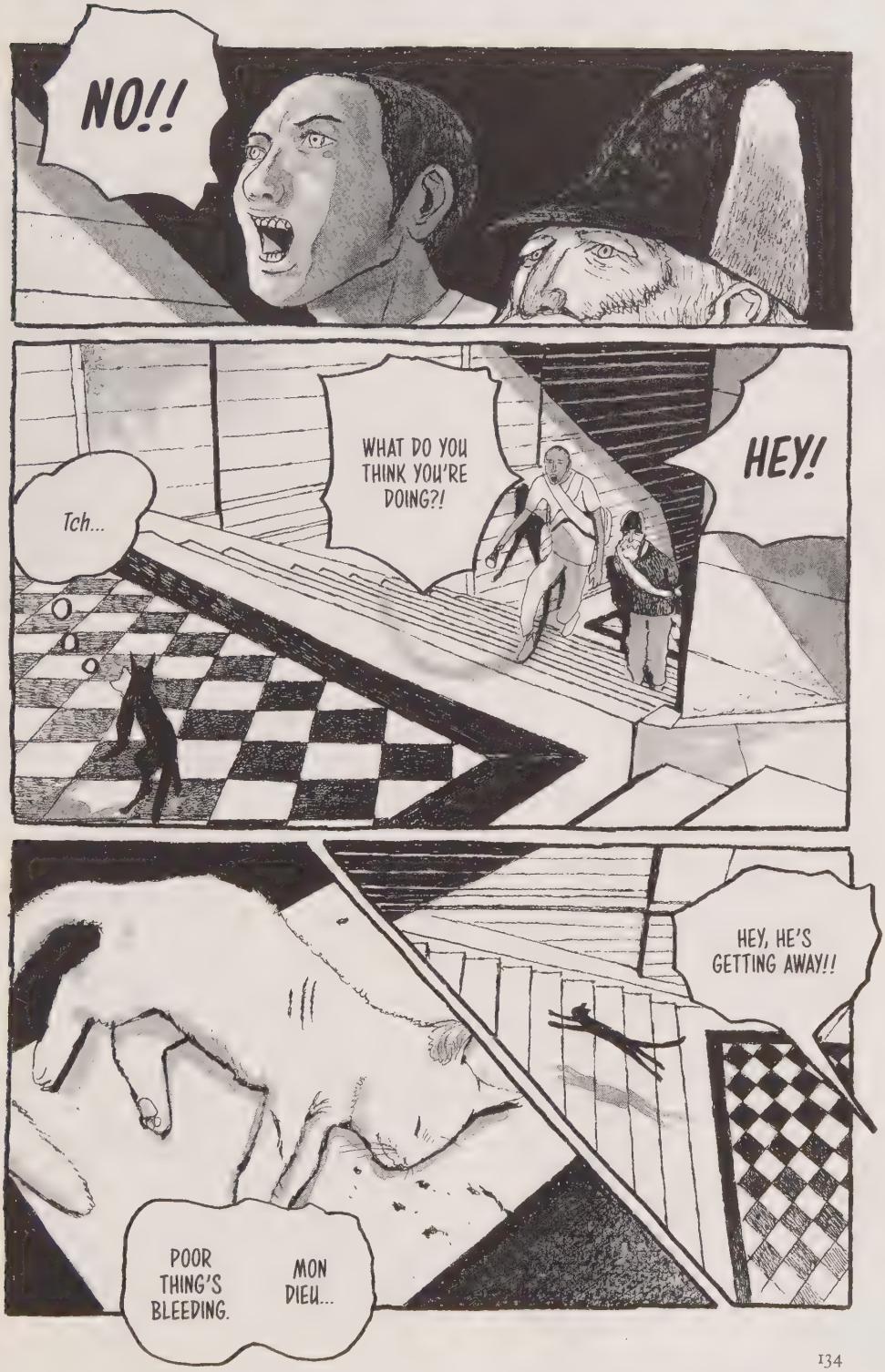

YIEE!
DO YOU KNOW WHY?
WHY I'LL TAKE YOUR LIFE?
KNOW WHY, SNOWBÉBÉ?
KLIK
IT'S BECAUSE... YOU THINK LIFE IS A GAME...
KLIK
YIEE!

YOU'RE PACKING IT ALL UP?
ALL THIS...
YEAH, OFF TO THE CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT.
YEP.
WELL, TAKE CARE!
HISSS


CHOMP
GYAAA
!!
FWAH
MROWOW
OWWW.

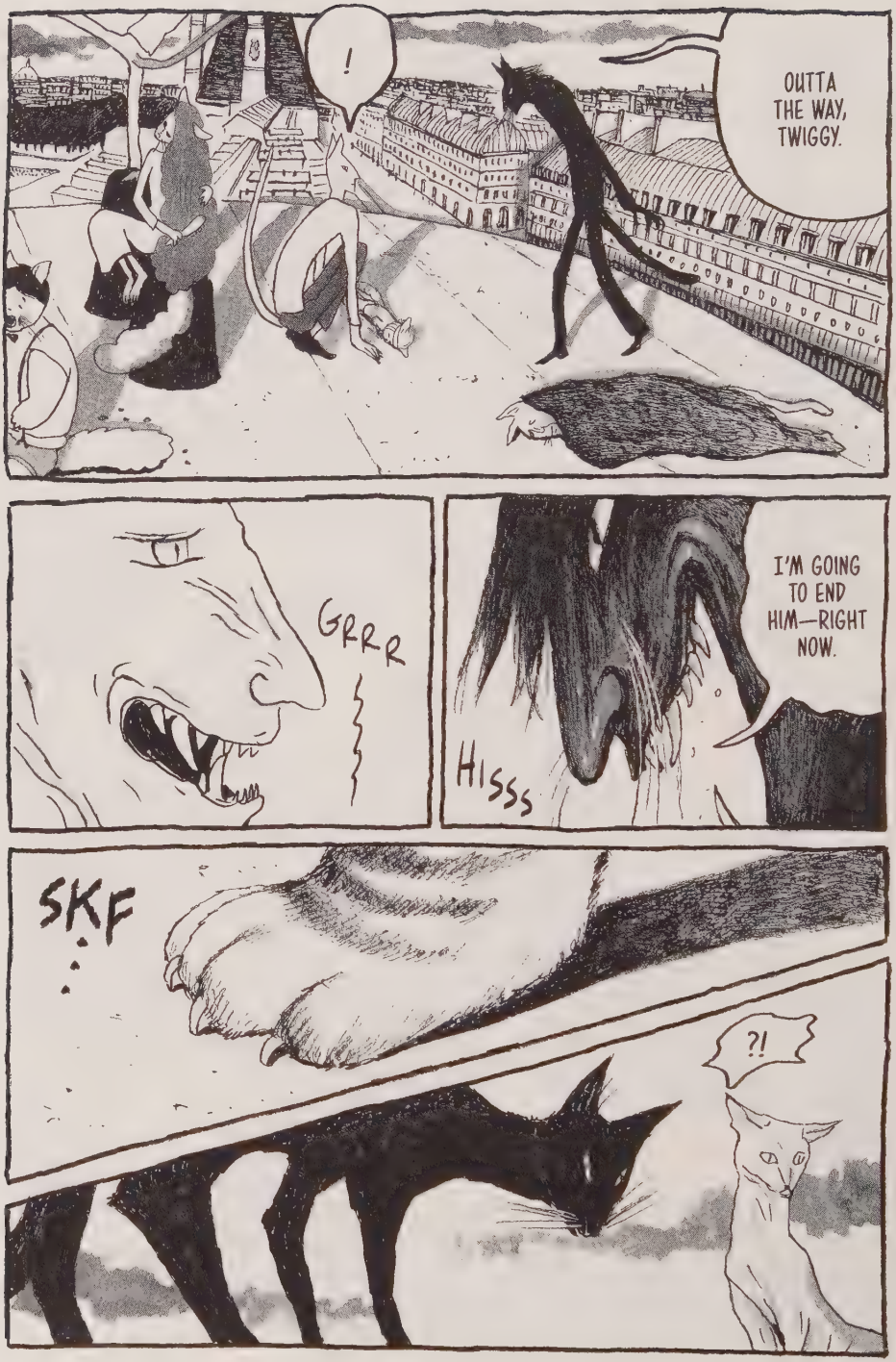
THUMP
WHMP
YOU AND ALL YOUR SILLY RUNNING AROUND...
YOU'LL GET US ALL IN TROUBLE!!
WE STRUGGLE TO SURVIVE, BUT SOMEDAY THEY'LL KILL US!!


IS HE STILL ALIVE?
YES...
BUT THE WOUND IS QUITE DEEP...
LITTLE WHITE CAT...
YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO HIDE IN A PAINTING?
YOU CAN HEAR THEIR VOICES TOO, NO?

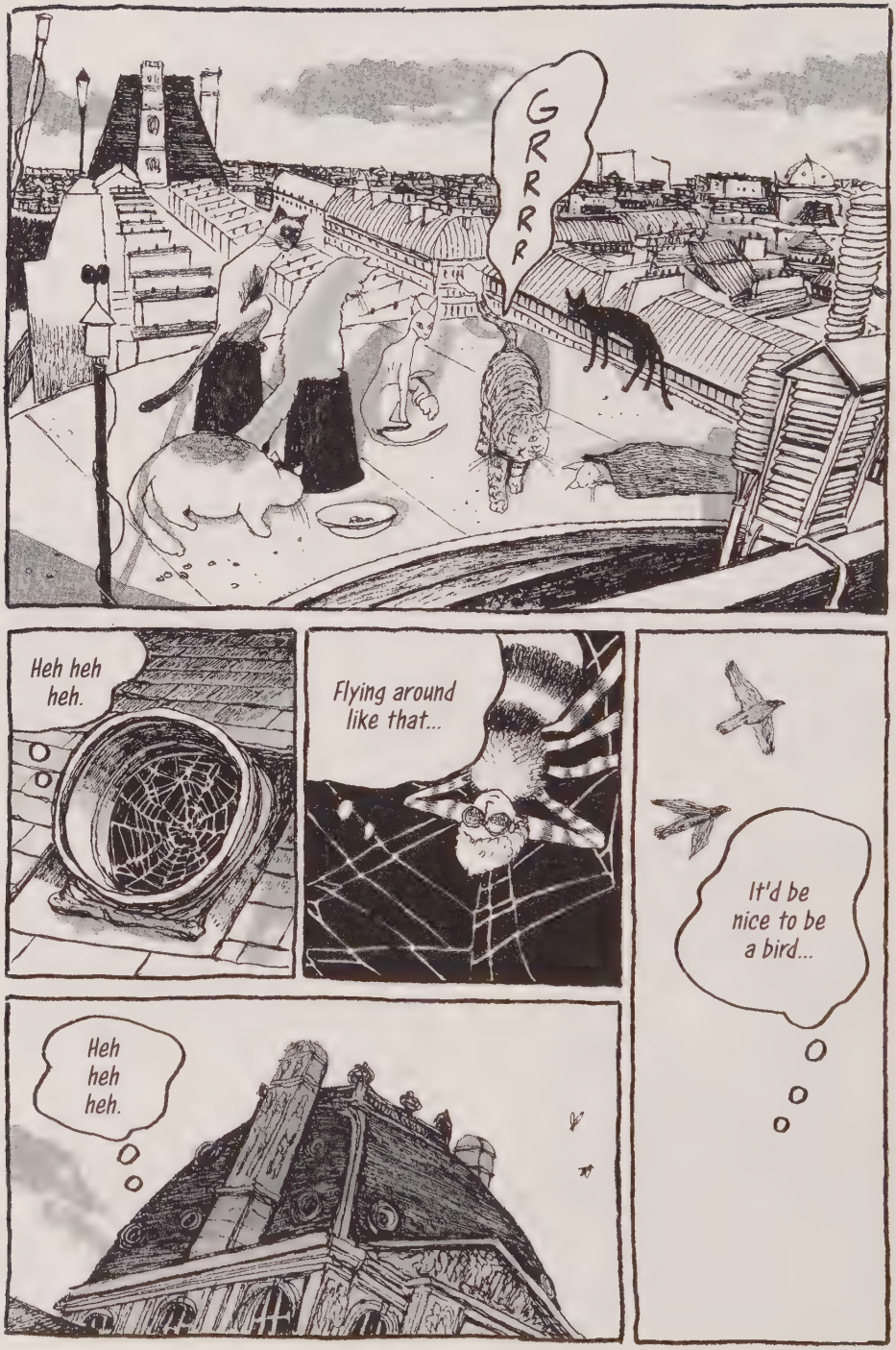

NO!!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
HEY!
Tch...
HEY, HE'S GETTING AWAY!!
POOR THING'S BLEEDING.
MON DIEU...

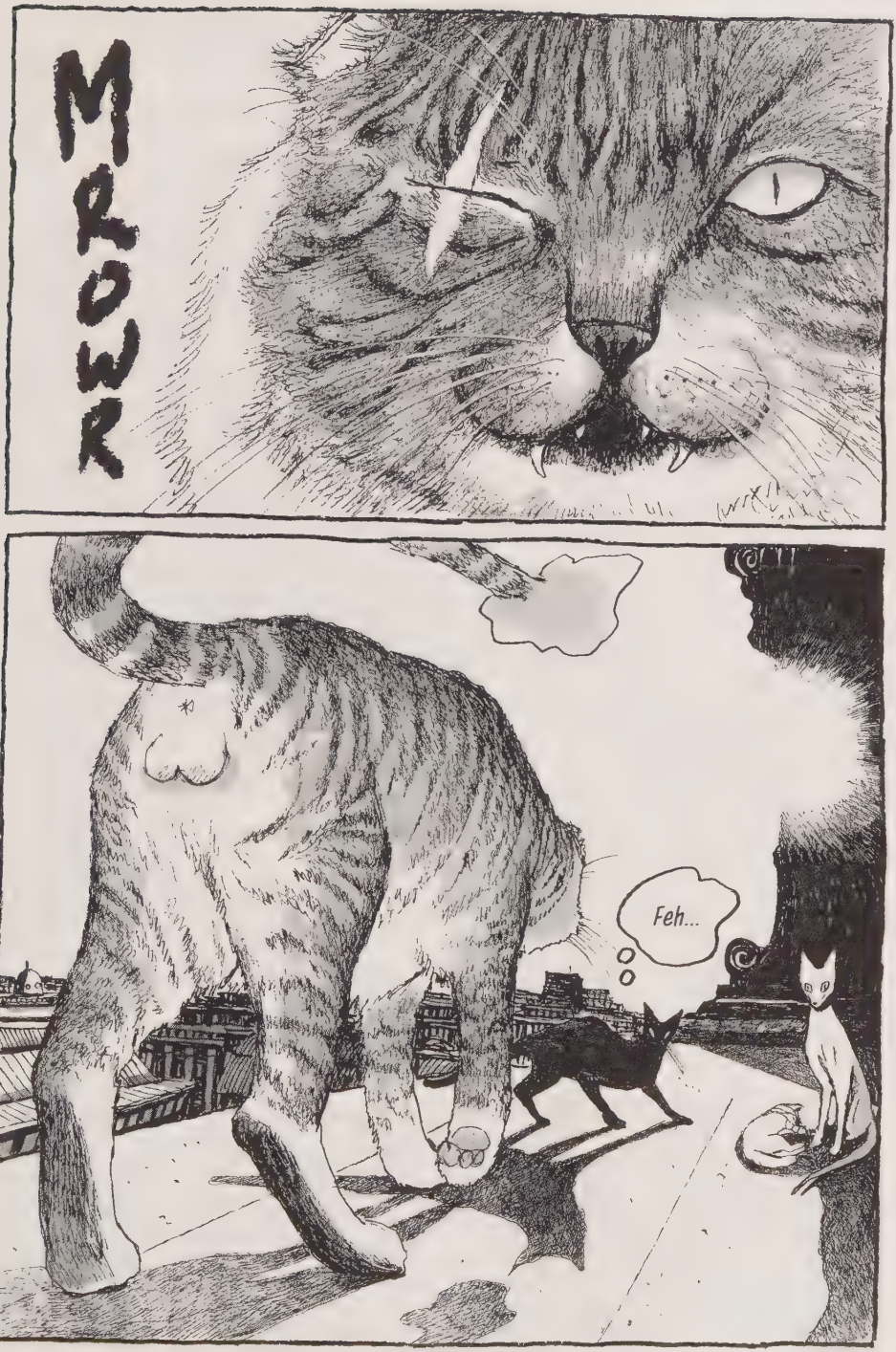
HOW AWFUL. LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE.
VROOOO
PLIP
SNOWBÉBÉ, YOU POOR THING...
HE'S ALL TORN UP...
HMPH...

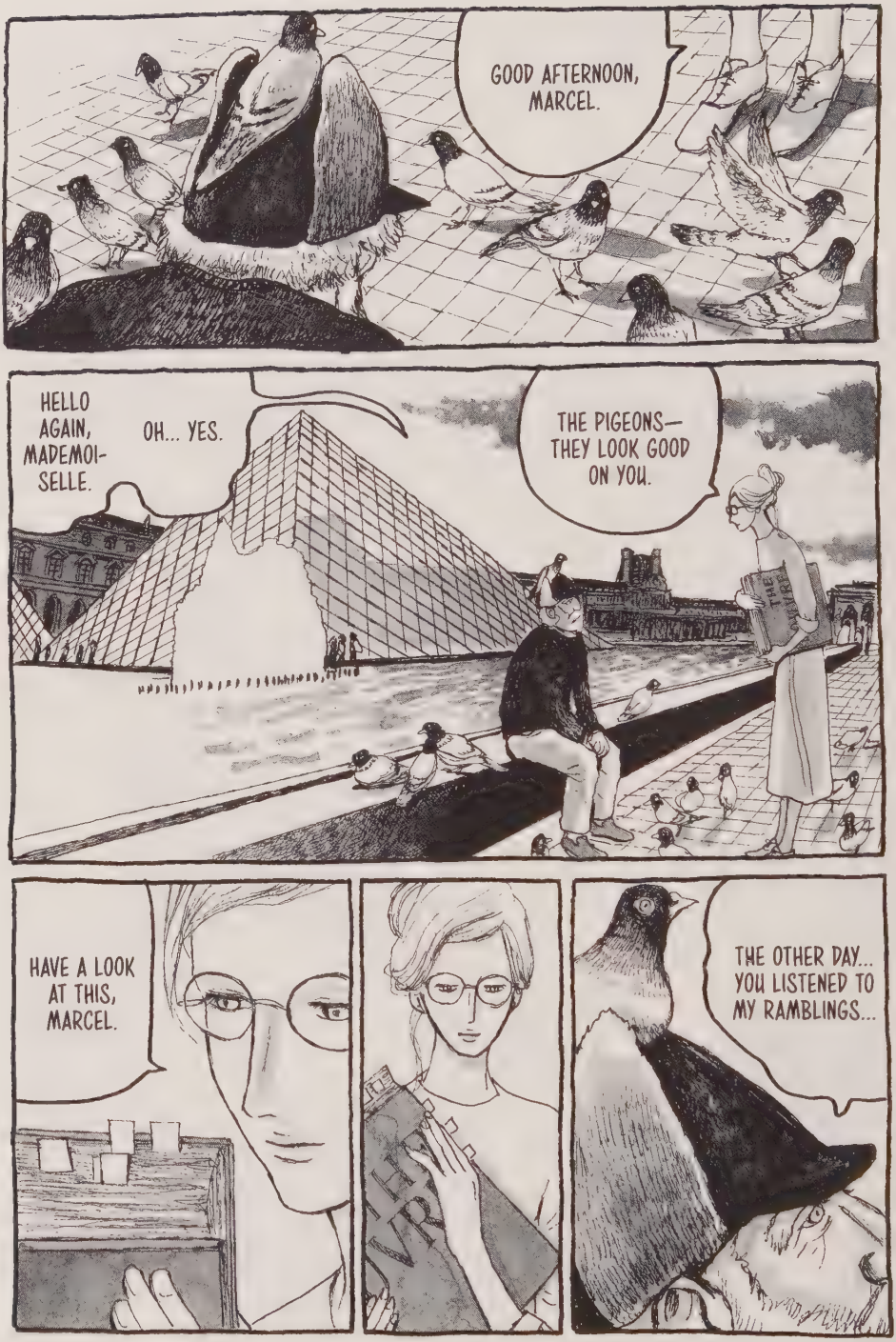
...I'M HERE. MARCEL IS HERE—WAITING FOR HER. TELL HER THAT.
IF YOU SEE MY SISTER, I WANT YOU TO TELL HER...
LICK! LICK!
...

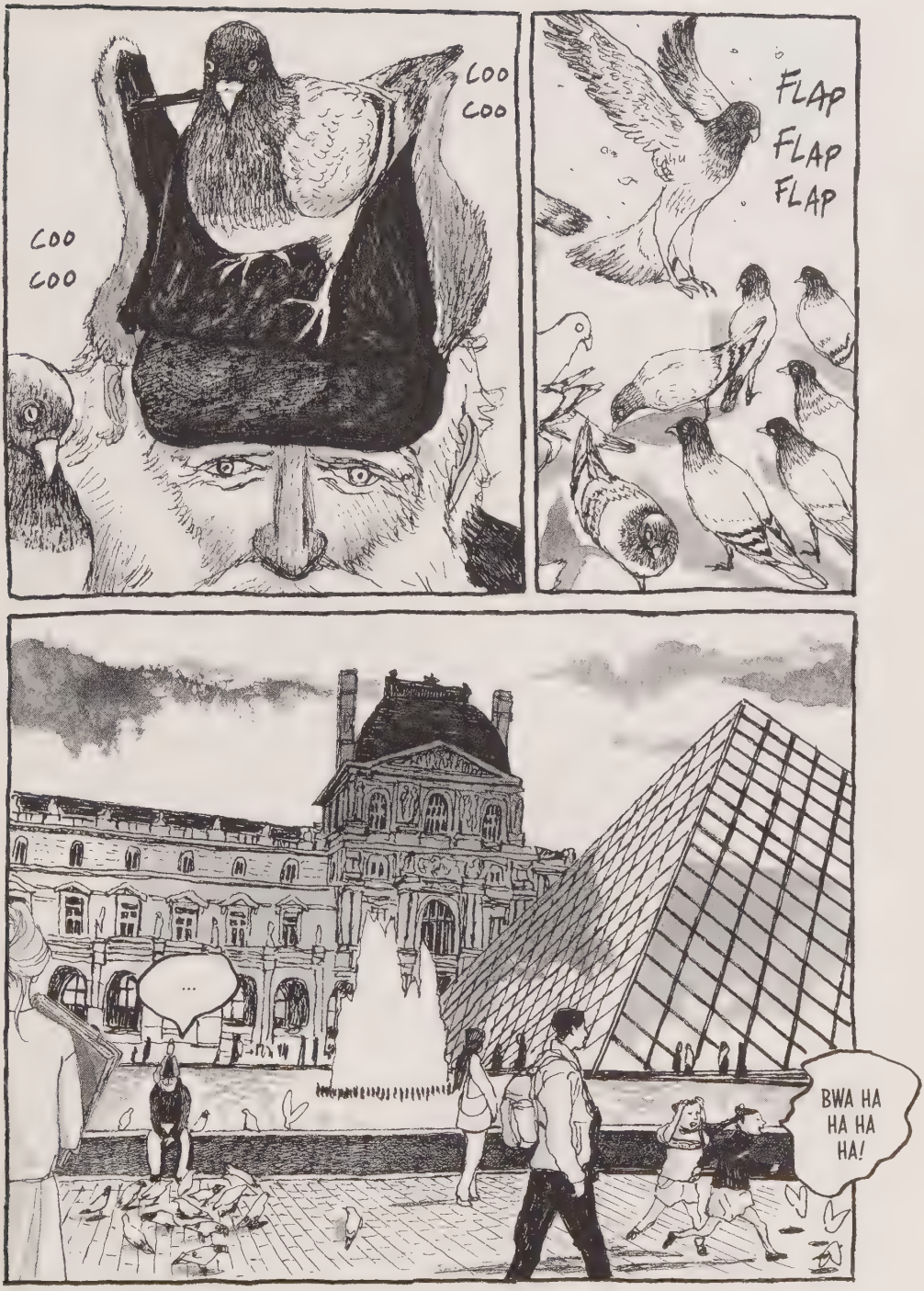

!
OUTTA THE WAY, TWIGGY.
GRRR
HISSS
I'M GOING TO END HIM—RIGHT NOW.
SKF
?!

YOU LOT JUST DON'T REALIZE IT...
YOU WISH SNOWBÉBÉ WOULD JUST DISAPPEAR.
BUT YOU KNOW IT IN YOUR GUTS...
THAT'S WHY I'M GOING TO DO YOU THE FAVOR OF EXTINGUISHING HIM.
IF HE GIVES US AWAY, WE'LL BE DRIVEN OUT AND WE'LL DIE ON THE STREET.


GRRRR
Heh heh heh.
Flying around like that...
It'd be nice to be a bird...
Heh heh heh.


MROWR
Feh...


GOOD AFTERNOON, MARCEL.
HELLO AGAIN, MADEMOI-SELLE.
OH... YES.
THE PIGEONS— THEY LOOK GOOD ON YOU.
HAVE A LOOK AT THIS, MARCEL.
THE OTHER DAY... YOU LISTENED TO MY RAMBLINGS...


COO
COO
COO
COO
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
...
BWA HA
HA HA
HA!

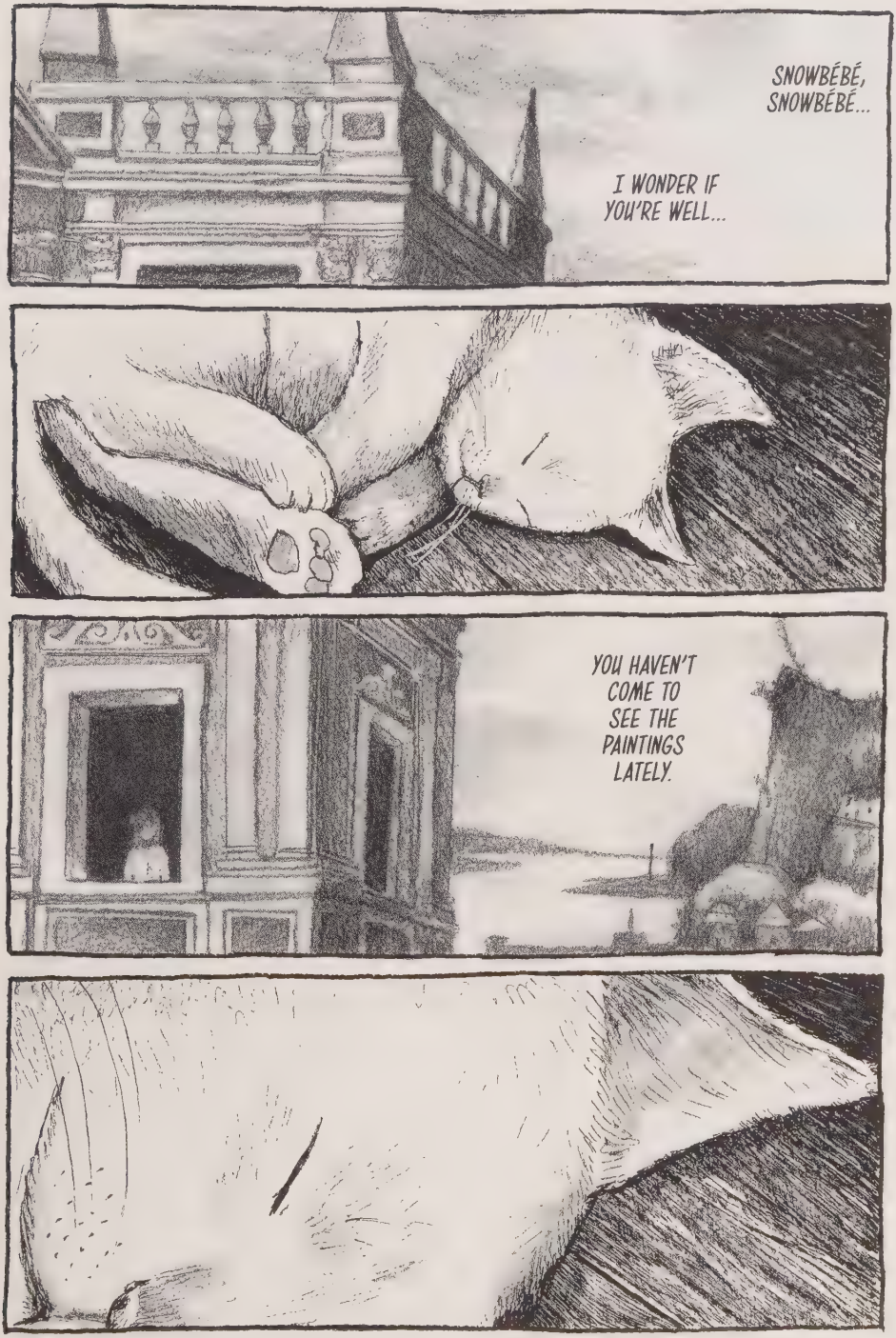
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FOR THE PAINTING WHERE YOUR SISTER LIVES.
IF YOU'D LIKE, WE COULD SEARCH TOGETHER.

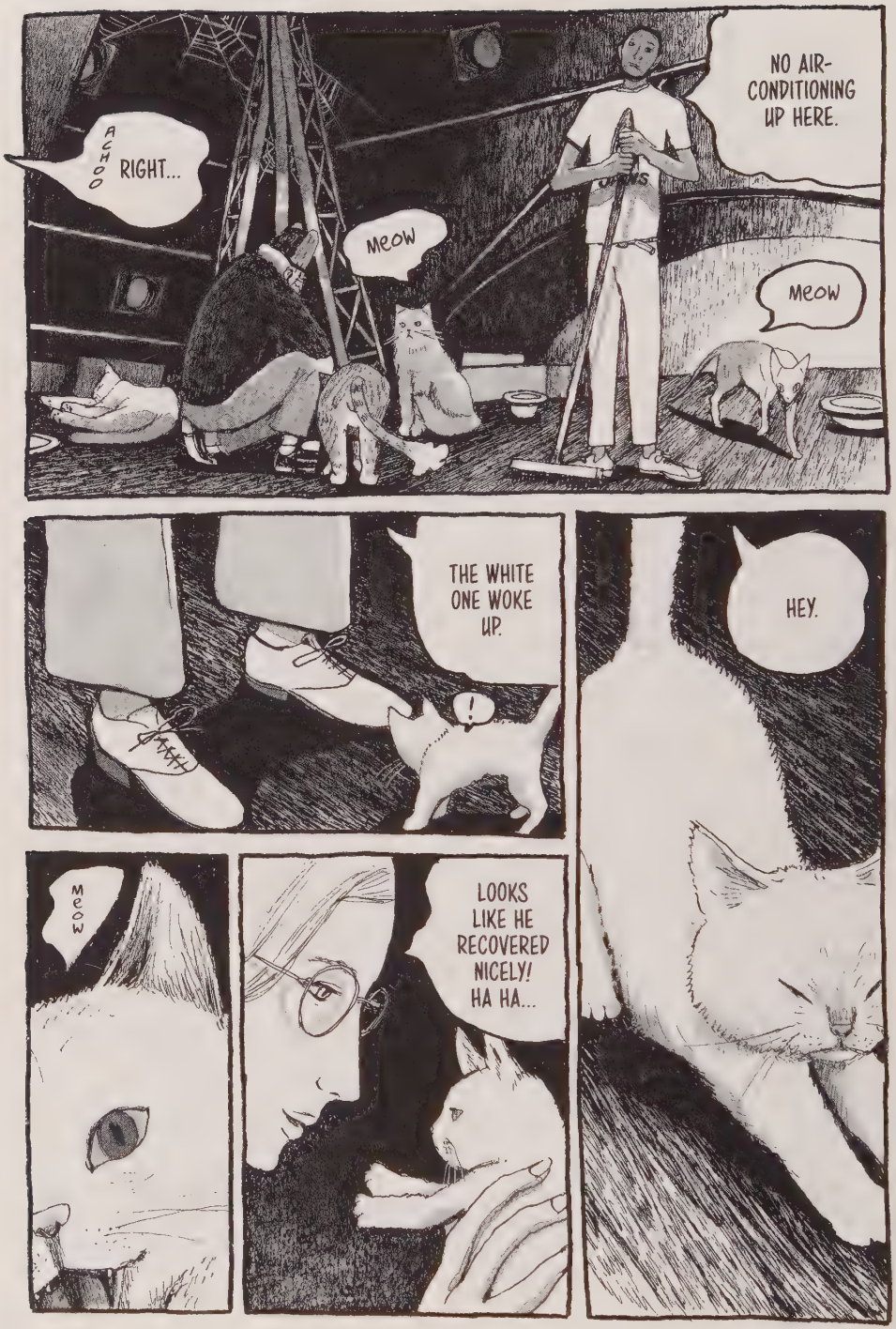
THIS BOOK... IT'S A CATALOG.
HUH?
GYA HA HA HA HA!
IT CONTAINS EVERY WORK OF ART IN THE LOUVRE.
OH...
FLAP

CHAPTER 7

The Secret of Twiggy

COME AND PLAY WITH ME AGAIN SOON.
I'M WAITING FOR YOU...


SNOWBÉBÉ, SNOWBÉBÉ...
I WONDER IF YOU'RE WELL...
YOU HAVEN'T COME TO SEE THE PAINTINGS LATELY.


NO AIR-CONDITIONING UP HERE.
MEOW
ACHOO
RIGHT...
MEOW
HEY.
THE WHITE ONE WOKE UP.
LOOKS LIKE HE RECOVERED NICELY! HA HA...
MEOW

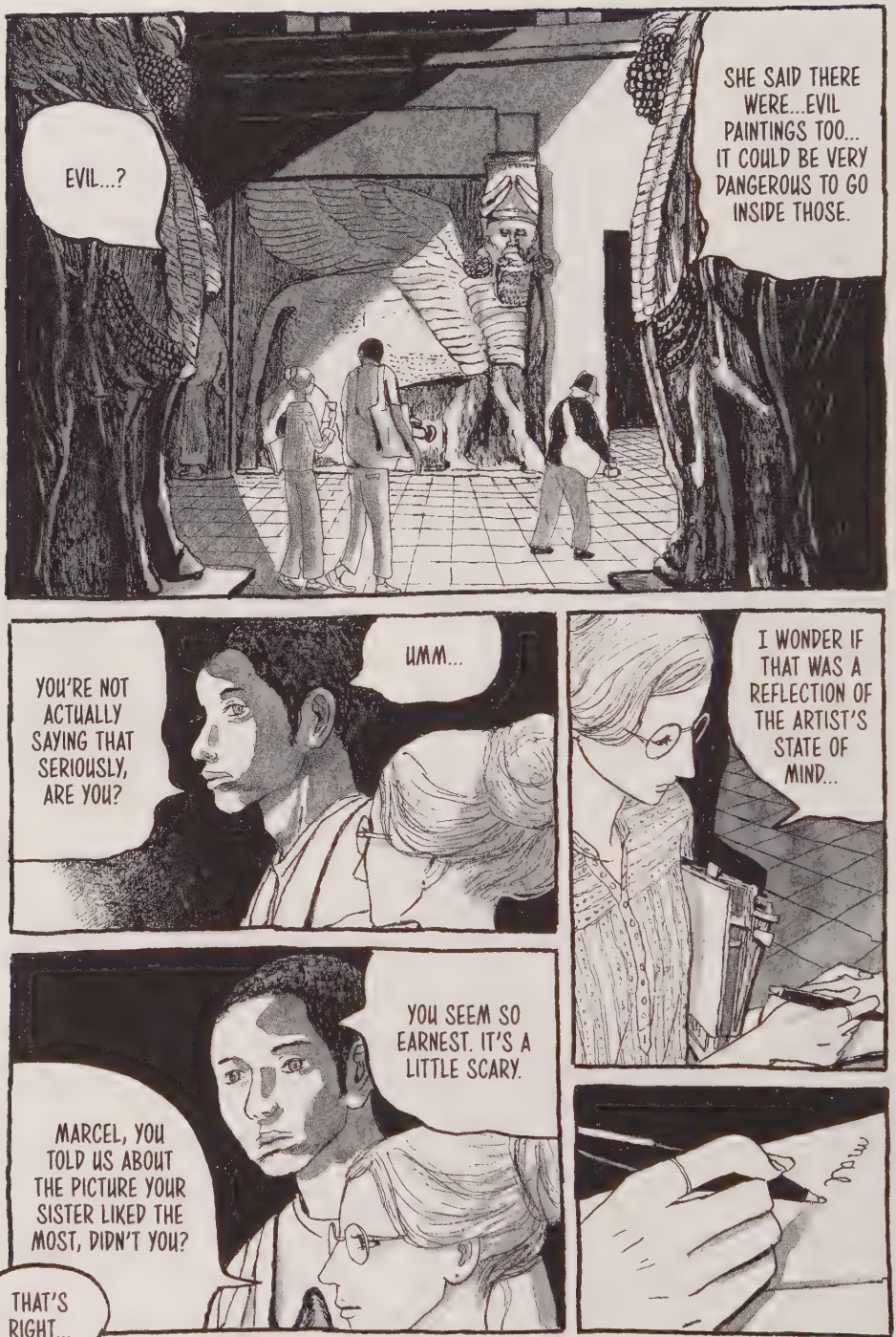
BAM
WHEW. WOW, IT'S HOT UP HERE!
SUMMER
SO STUFFY. COBWEBS EVERYWHERE...
...
MEOW
MEOW
OH WELL.

DON'T LIKE THAT ONE MUCH.
MEOW
OOH, THE HAIRLESS ONE!!
ACHOO!
MROW...
STOMP
STOMP
MRAA
HOW COME YOU DON'T HAVE ANY HAIR, BALDY?
VROOOO

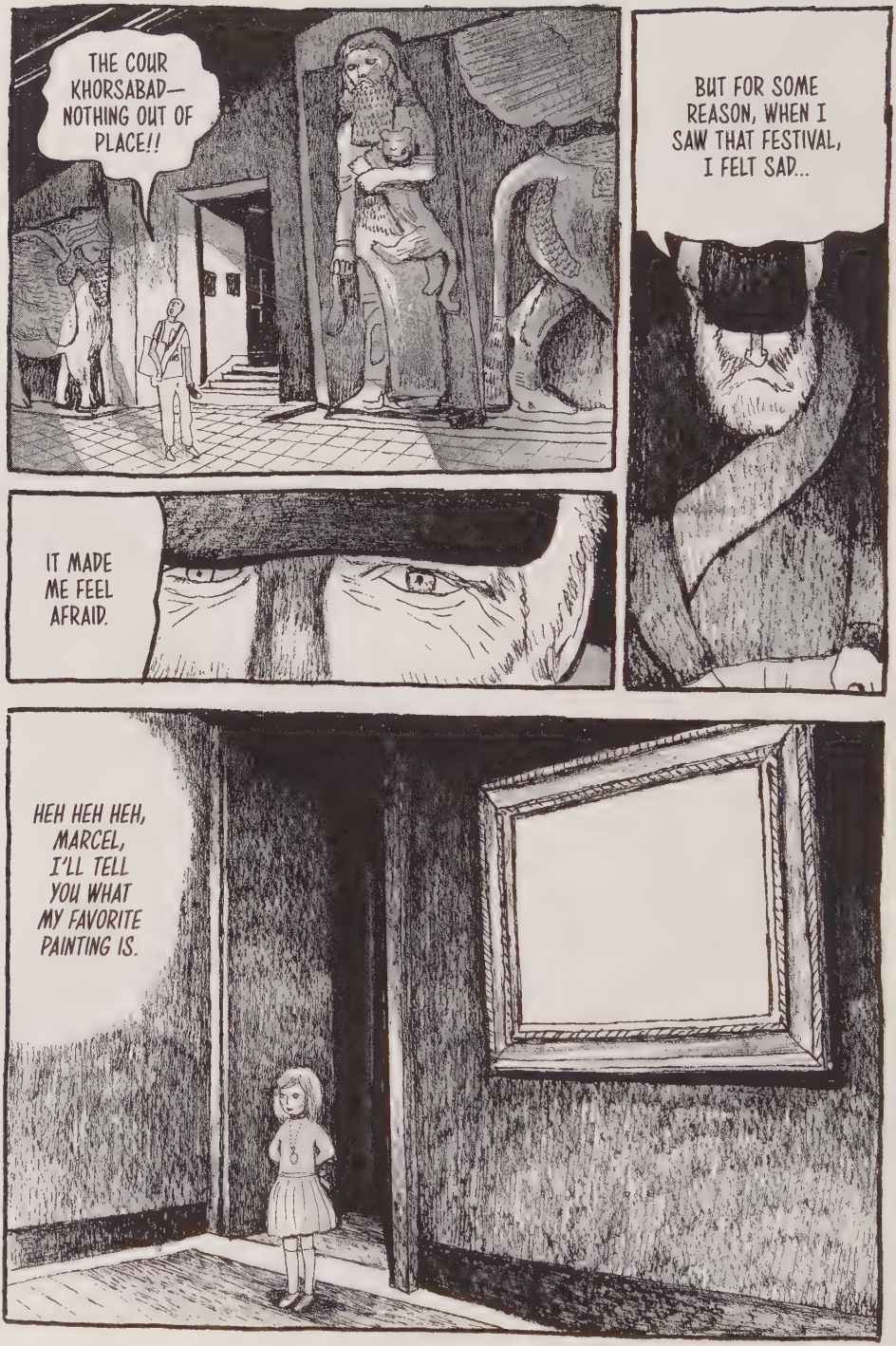
NEVER GROWS MUCH THOUGH.
HE'LL BE SEVEN THIS WINTER.

BEEN KEEPING TO HIMSELF SINCE THE BLACK ONE ATTACKED HIM.
ON TOP OF THAT, HE DOESN'T GET ALONG WITH THE OTHERS.
MEOW.
...

LOOKS LIKE THIS HAIRLESS ONE IS TAKING CARE OF HIM.
MEOW
WELL...IT'S NOT ALL BAD FOR THE LITTLE GUY, IS IT?
LICK LICK
IT'S LIKE I'M LOOKING AT MY SISTER.

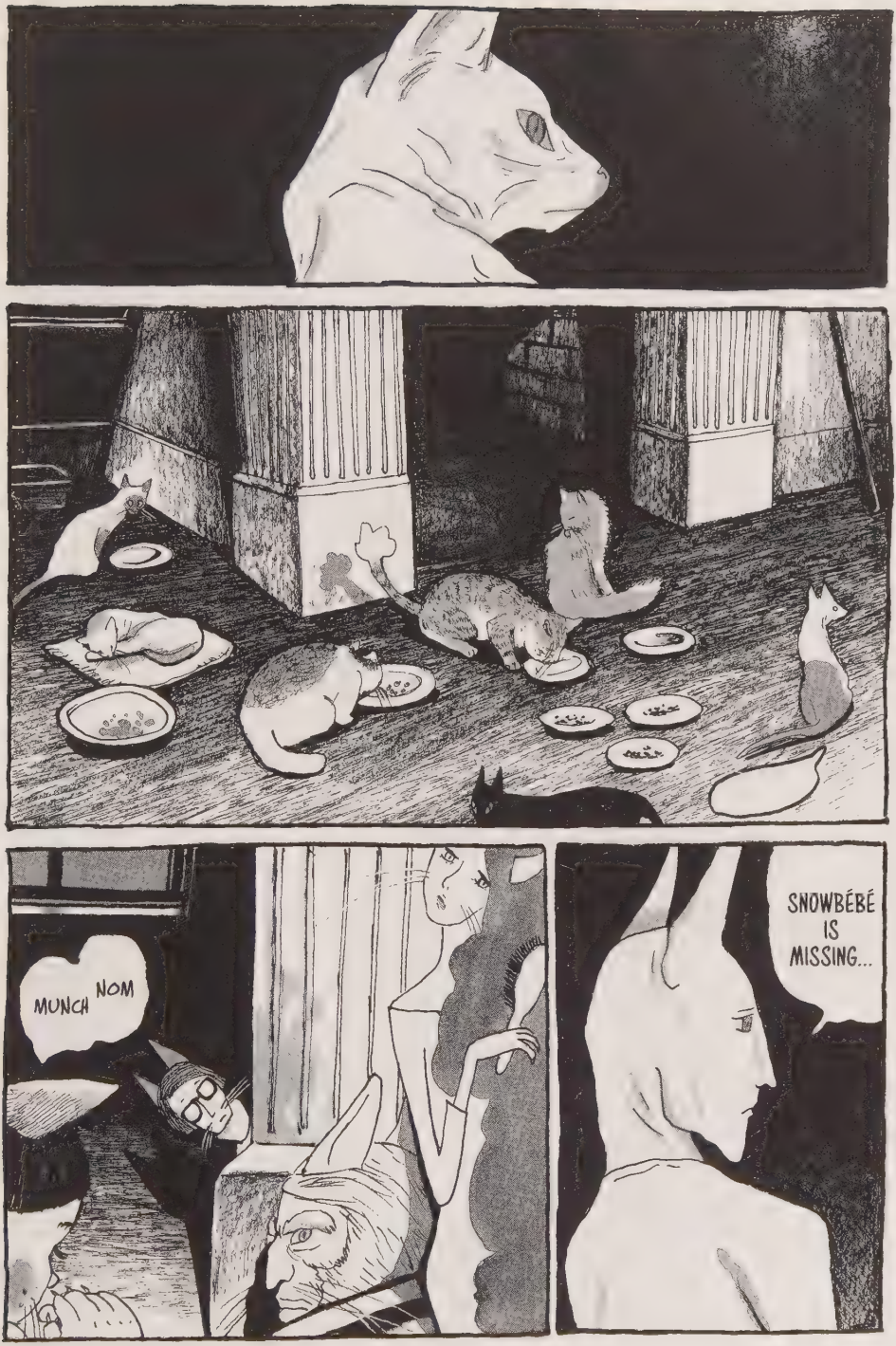

EVIL...?
SHE SAID THERE WERE...EVIL PAINTINGS TOO... IT COULD BE VERY DANGEROUS TO GO INSIDE THOSE.
YOU'RE NOT ACTUALLY SAYING THAT SERIOUSLY, ARE YOU?
UMM...
I WONDER IF THAT WAS A REFLECTION OF THE ARTIST'S STATE OF MIND...
MARCEL, YOU TOLD US ABOUT THE PICTURE YOUR SISTER LIKED THE MOST, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU SEEM SO EARNEST. IT'S A LITTLE SCARY.
THAT'S RIGHT...

...NOT ALL THE PAINTINGS SPOKE TO HER.
MM-HMM...
SHE SAID THEY WOULD...HIDE THEMSELVES... WHEN THERE WERE LARGE CROWDS.
THAT'S RIGHT.
SO, ACCORDING TO YOUR SISTER...

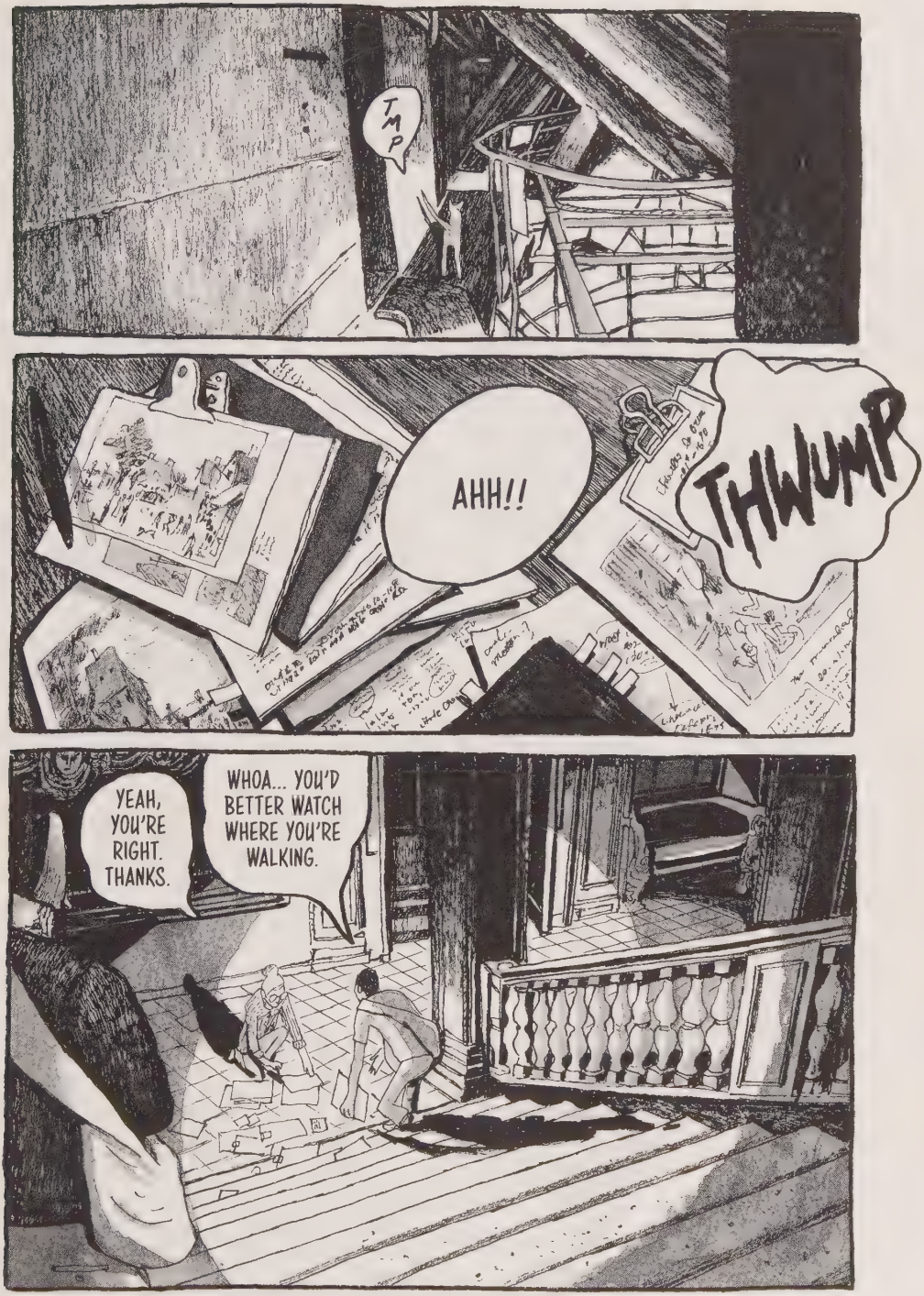

THE COUR KHORSABAD— NOTHING OUT OF PLACE!!
BUT FOR SOME REASON, WHEN I SAW THAT FESTIVAL, I FELT SAD...
IT MADE ME FEEL AFRAID.
HEH HEH HEH, MARCEL, I'LL TELL YOU WHAT MY FAVORITE PAINTING IS.

YEAH... RIGHT...
IF ONLY WE COULD FIND THAT PAINTING...
A FESTIVAL?
YEAH...
IT WAS A FESTIVAL...OR SOMETHING... WITH MANY CHILDREN...
I THINK YOU MIGHT END UP HURTING HIS FEELINGS.
I REMEMBER THE CHILDREN MADE A LINE... AND THEY LOOKED LIKE THEY WERE ENJOYING THEMSELVES.
entre festival...

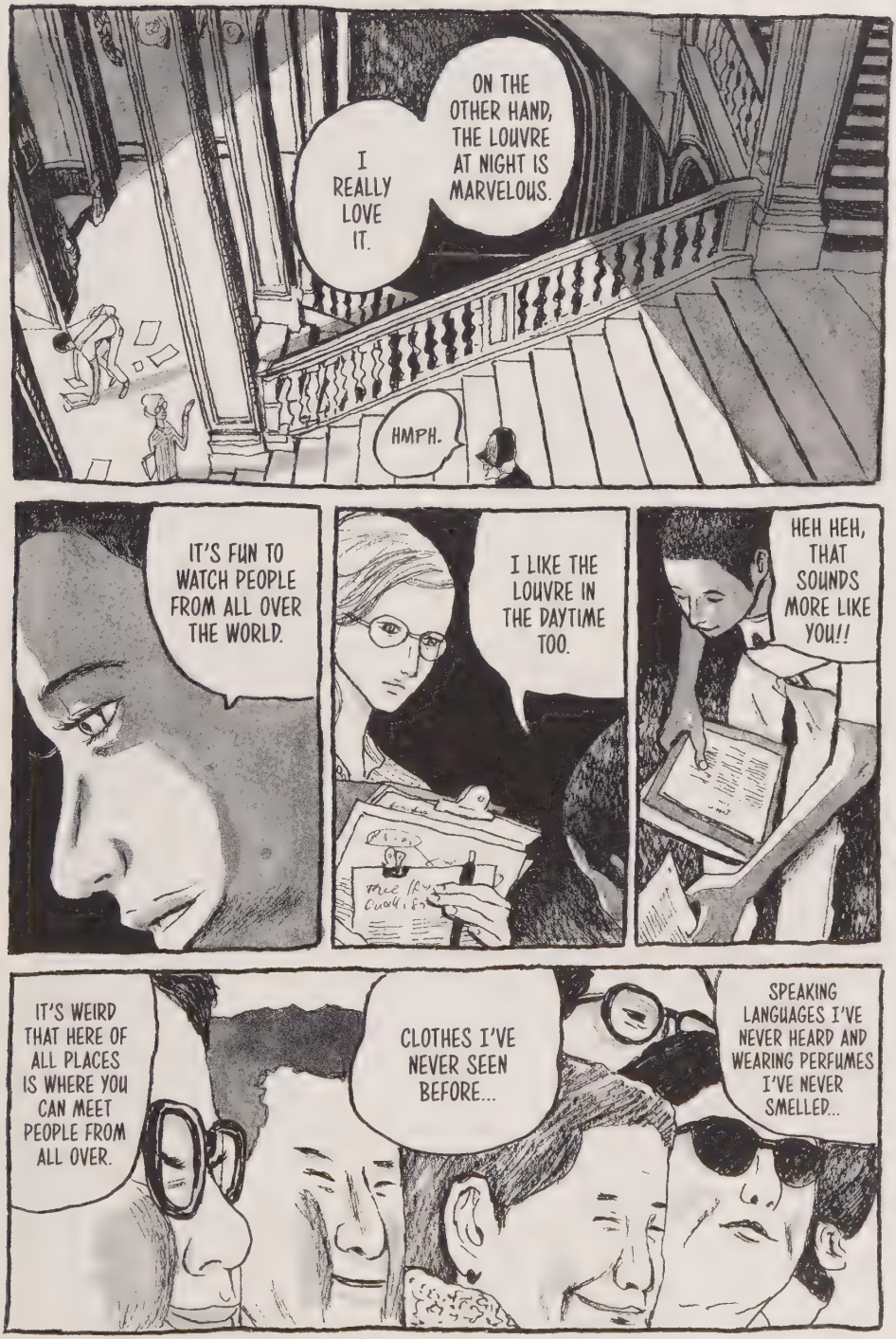
...
NOM
NOM
WHERE ARE YOU?
HEY, SNOWBÉBÉ!
PROBABLY ASLEEP SOMEWHERE AGAIN!
HEY, TWIGGY!!
I'LL GO LOOK AROUND A BIT...
I'LL BE BACK IN NO TIME.
FORGET IT— THERE'S TOO MANY PLACES TO SEARCH.
Fah!
MUNCH
MUNCH
MEOW


MUNCH NOM
SNOWBÉBÉ IS MISSING...

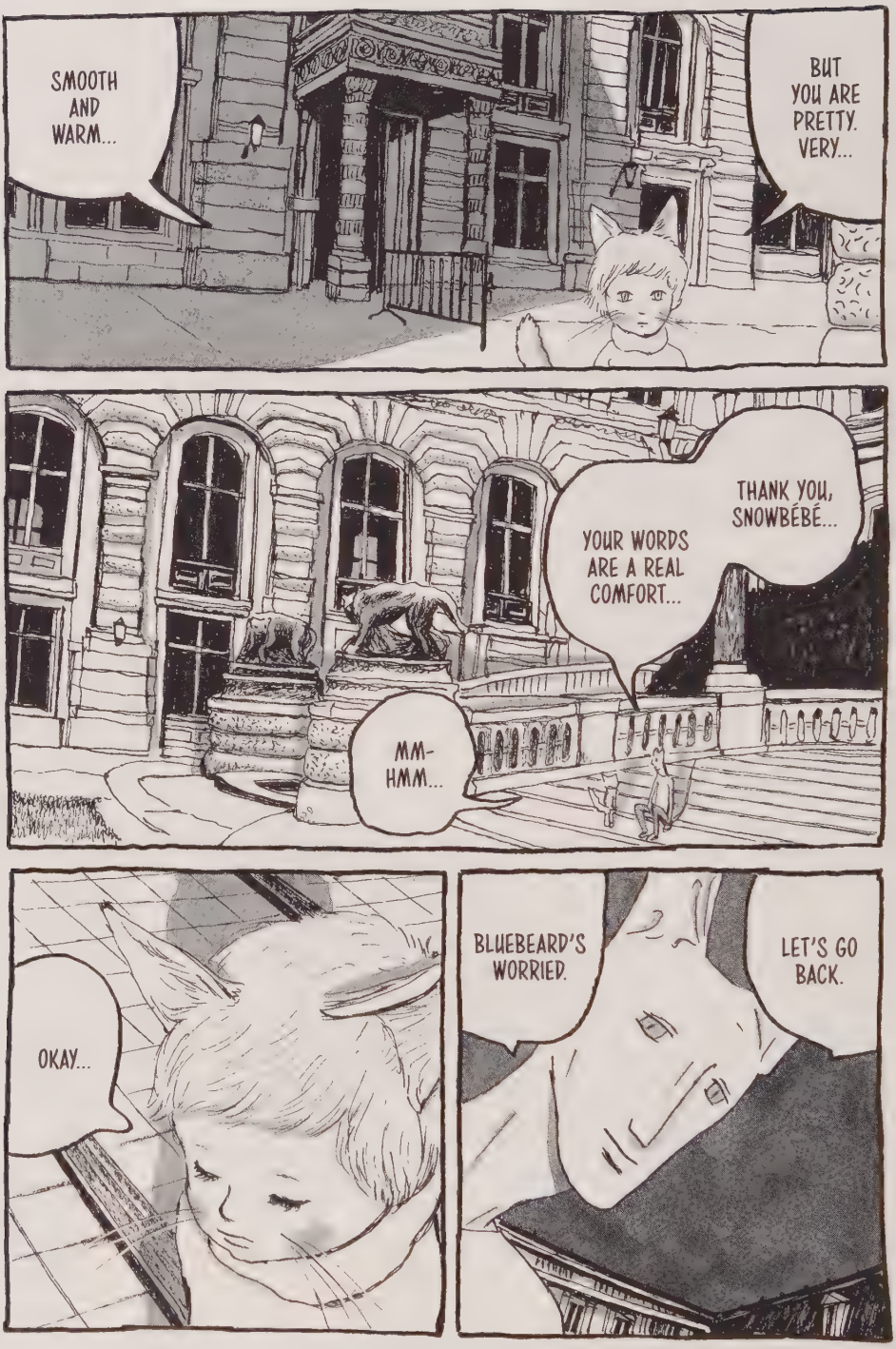
...
YOU MUST BE TIRED AFTER YOUR TOURS TODAY, AND NOW ROUNDS WITH US?
BUT REALLY, CÉCILE, YOU'RE SO DEDICATED.
I'M PROBABLY NOT CUT OUT TO BE A GUIDE.
WELL, I...
...AND I TALK ABOUT ALL THE PAINTINGS AND SCULPTURES EVERY DAY, BUT...
I SHOW ALL THOSE VISITORS AROUND...
...SOMETIMES I WONDER IF I'M REALLY CONVEYING ENOUGH ABOUT THE ARTWORK.
COROT

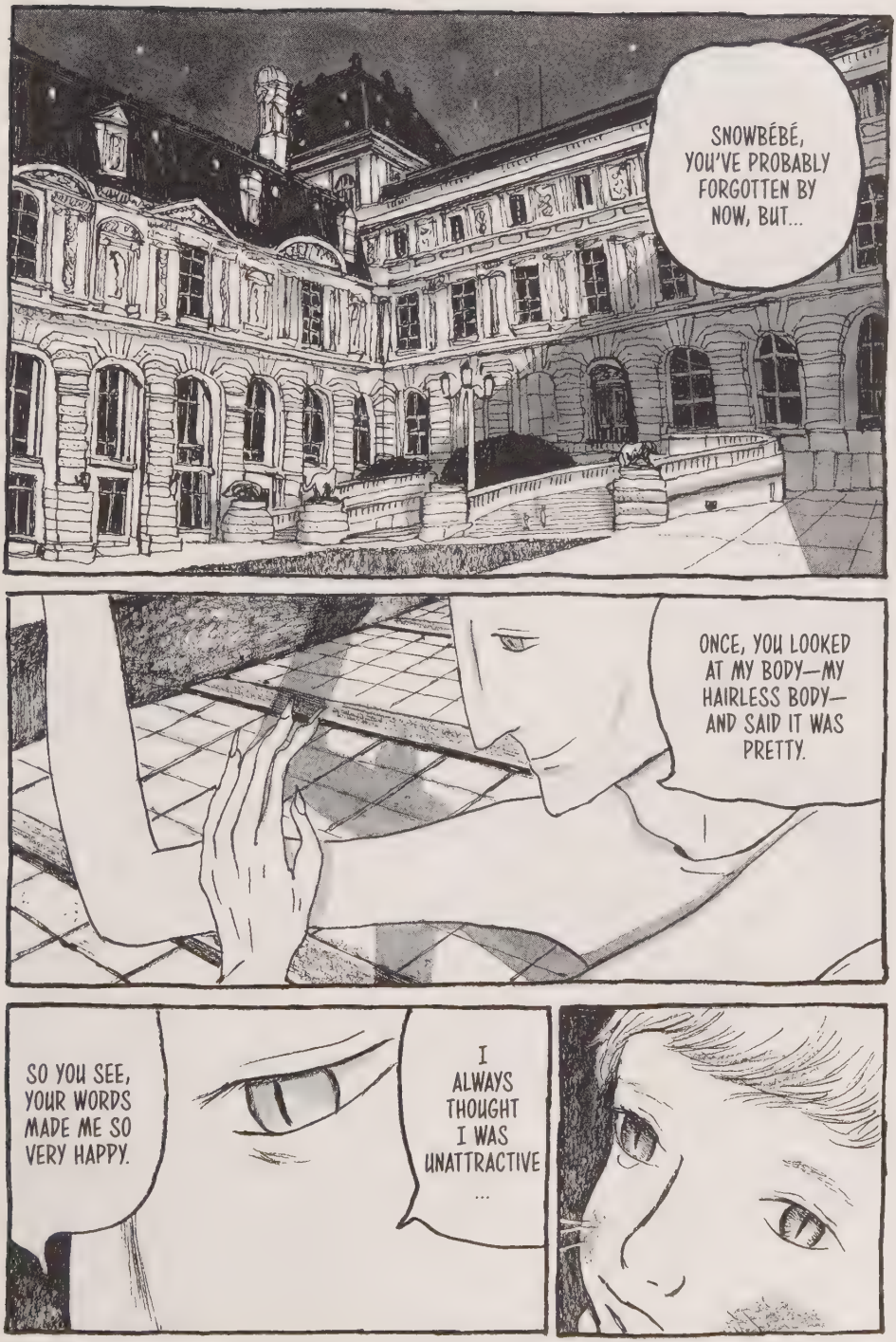

TMP
AHH!!
THWUMP
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT. THANKS.
WHOA... YOU'D BETTER WATCH WHERE YOU'RE WALKING.

?
HERE.
WELL... AS SOMEONE WHO KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT ART, THAT'S JUST HOW I FEEL.
HMM...
THANK YOU.


I REALLY LOVE IT.
ON THE OTHER HAND, THE LOUVRE AT NIGHT IS MARVELOUS.
HMPH.
IT'S FUN TO WATCH PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.
I LIKE THE LOUVRE IN THE DAYTIME TOO.
HEH HEH, THAT SOUNDS MORE LIKE YOU!!
IT'S WEIRD THAT HERE OF ALL PLACES IS WHERE YOU CAN MEET PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER.
CLOTHES I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE...
SPEAKING LANGUAGES I'VE NEVER HEARD AND WEARING PERFUMES I'VE NEVER SMELLED...

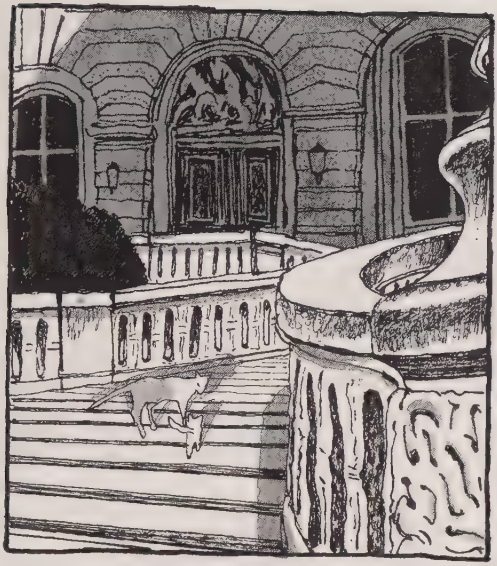
IT'S JUST ME, SNOWBÉBÉ.
THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY...
SKTCH
SNIFF
ARE YOU CRYING?
NUH-UH.
...

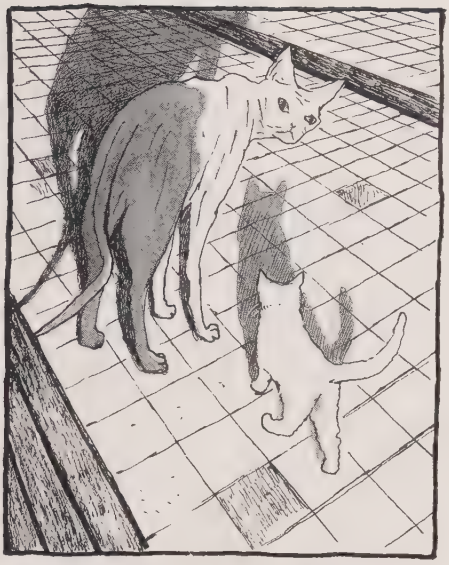

SMOOTH AND WARM...
BUT YOU ARE PRETTY. VERY...
THANK YOU, SNOWBÉBÉ...
YOUR WORDS ARE A REAL COMFORT...
MM-HMM...
OKAY...
BLUEBEARD'S WORRIED.
LET'S GO BACK.

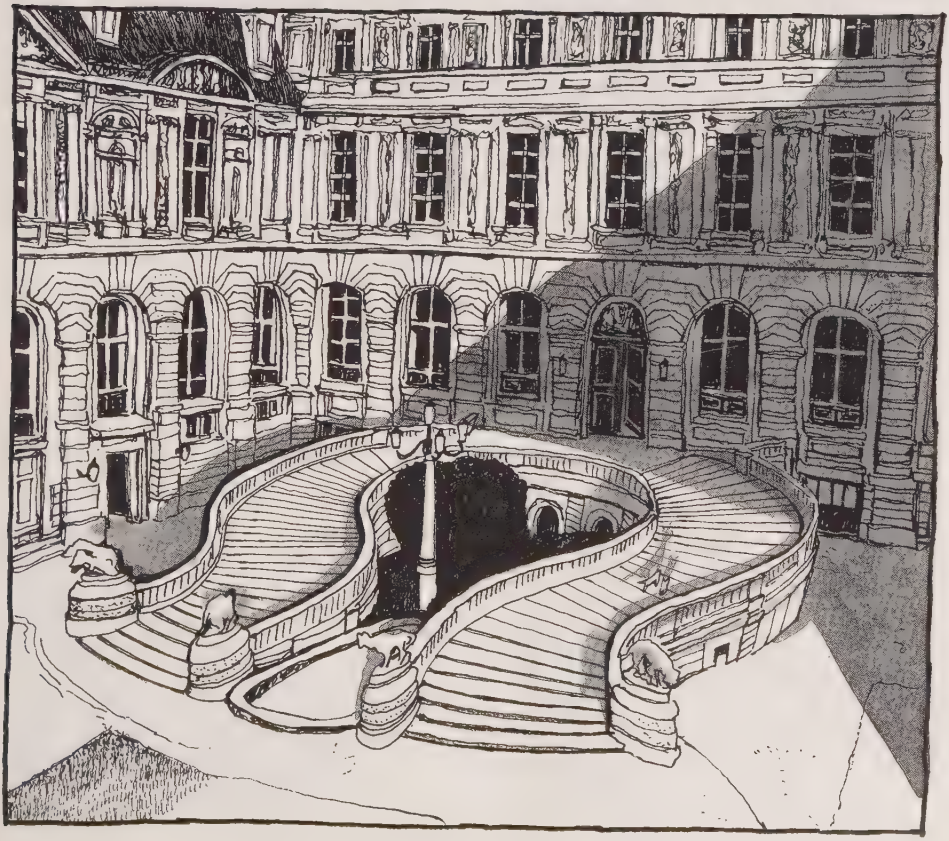

SNOWBÉBÉ, YOU'VE PROBABLY FORGOTTEN BY NOW, BUT...
ONCE, YOU LOOKED AT MY BODY—MY HAIRLESS BODY—AND SAID IT WAS PRETTY.
I ALWAYS THOUGHT I WAS UNATTRACTIVE ...
SO YOU SEE, YOUR WORDS MADE ME SO VERY HAPPY.

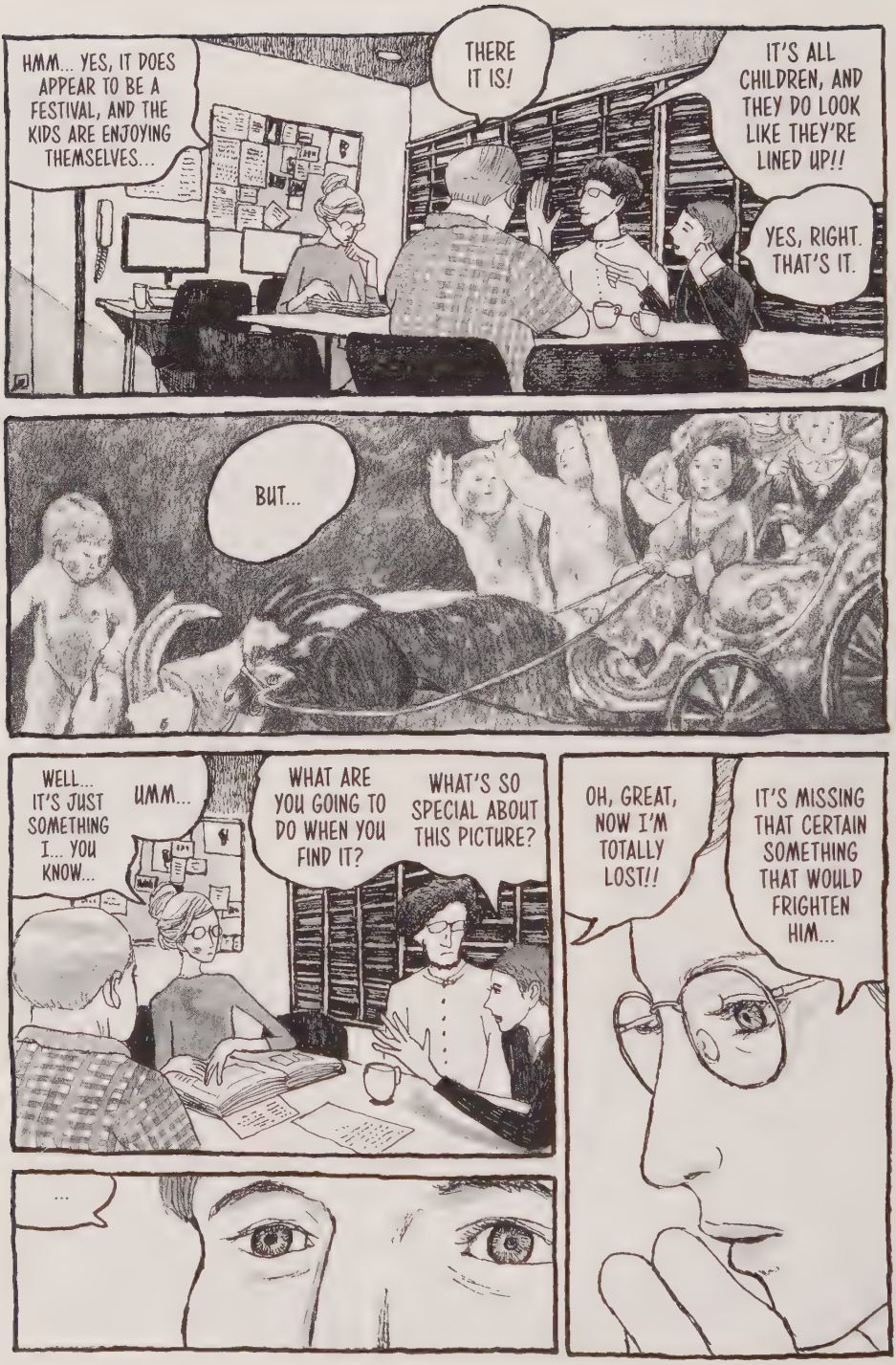
CHAPTER 8

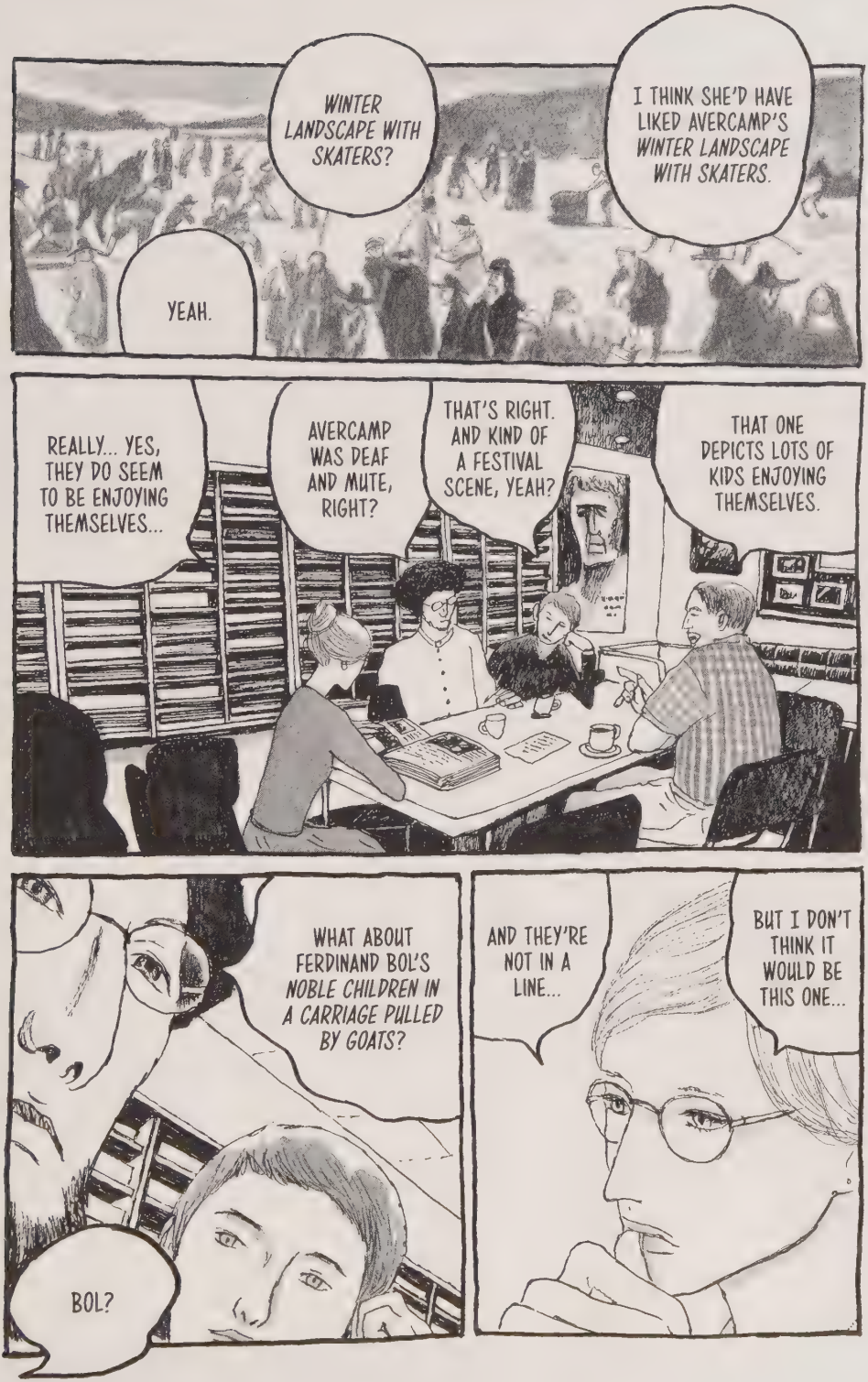
The Secret of the Little Spider

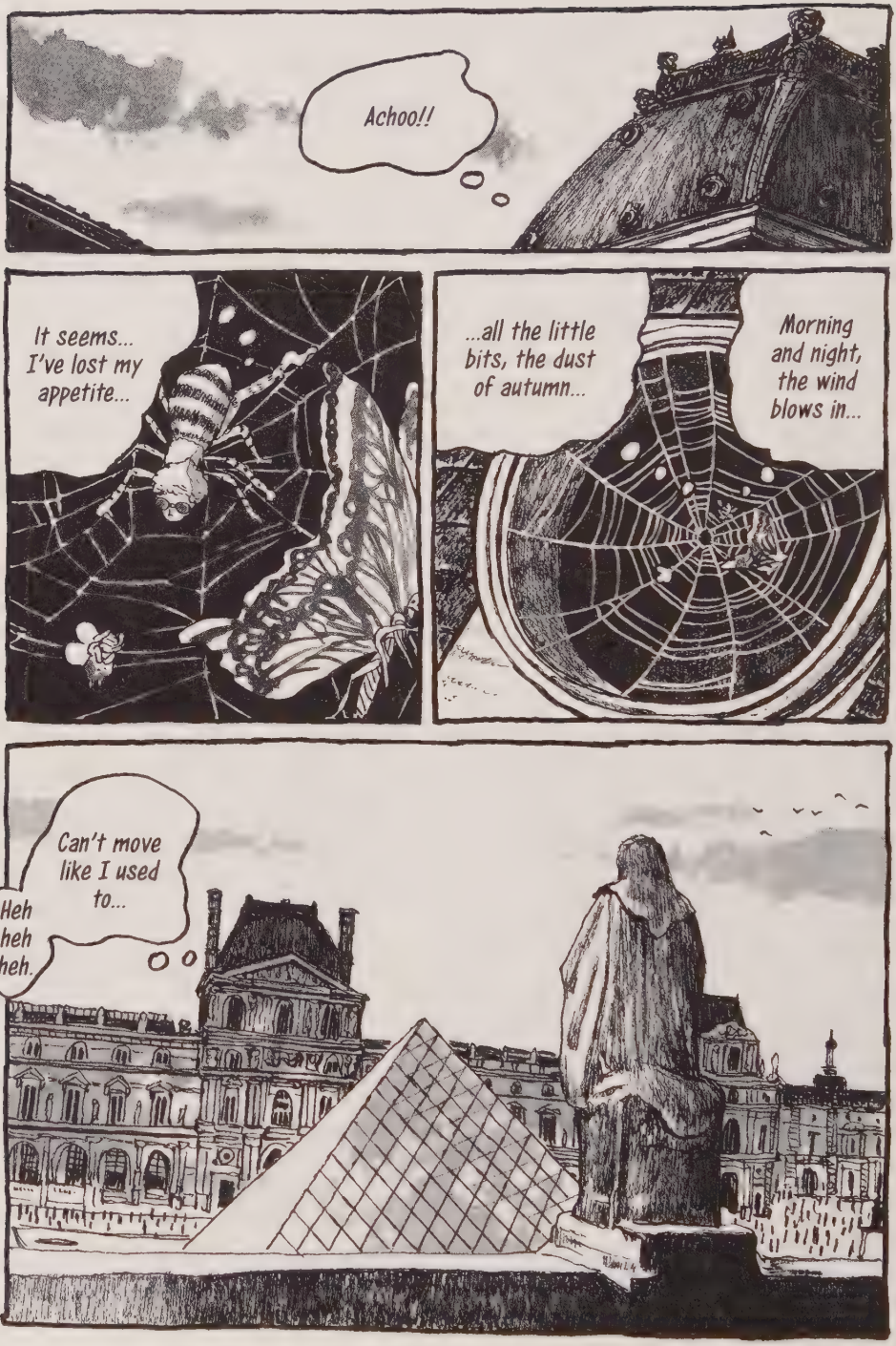




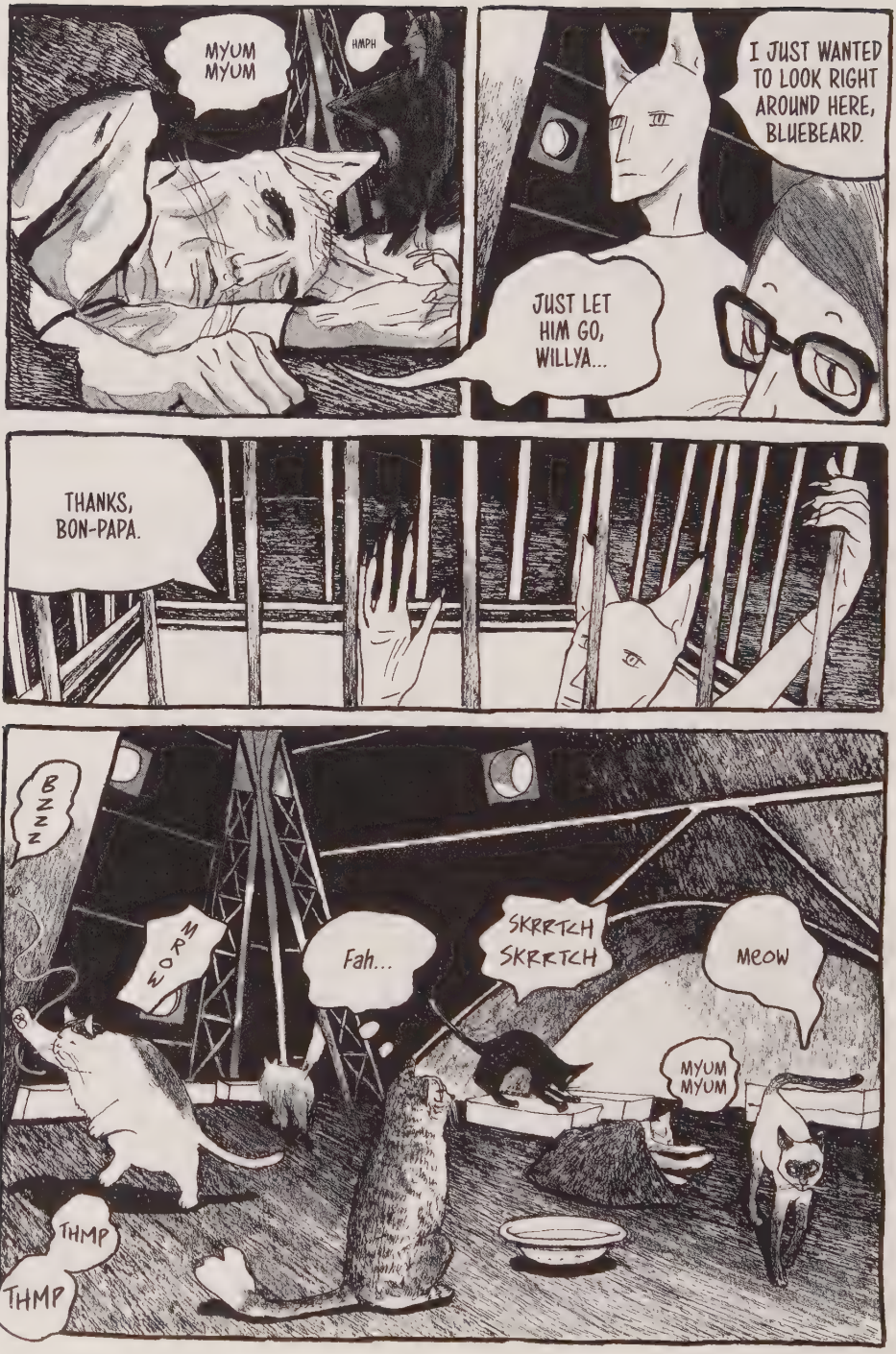


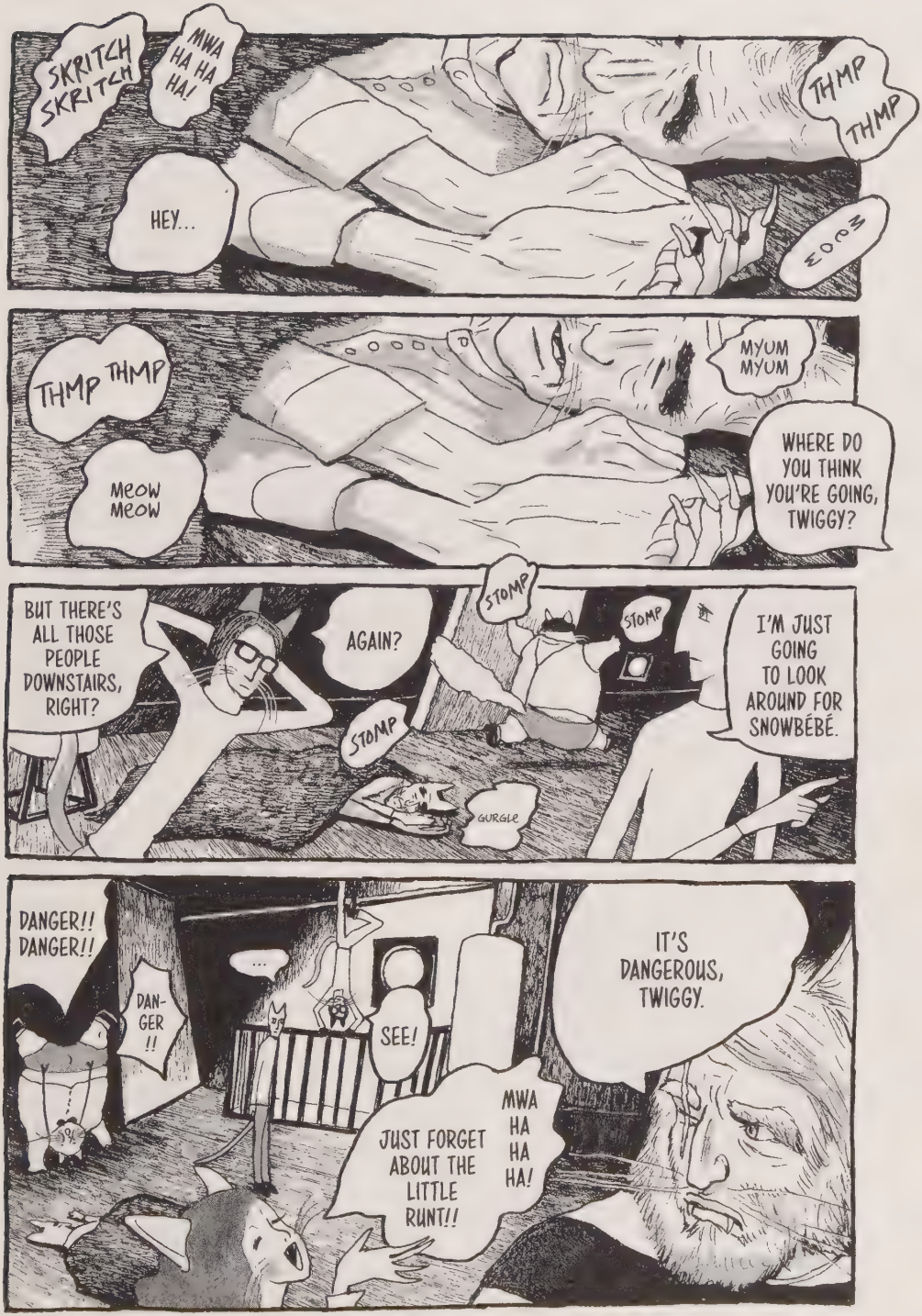

HMM... YES, IT DOES APPEAR TO BE A FESTIVAL, AND THE KIDS ARE ENJOYING THEMSELVES...
THERE IT IS!
IT'S ALL CHILDREN, AND THEY DO LOOK LIKE THEY'RE LINED UP!!
YES, RIGHT. THAT'S IT.
BUT...
WELL... IT'S JUST SOMETHING I... YOU KNOW...
UMM...
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WHEN YOU FIND IT?
WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT THIS PICTURE?
...
OH, GREAT, NOW I'M TOTALLY LOST!!
IT'S MISSING THAT CERTAIN SOMETHING THAT WOULD FRIGHTEN HIM...


WINTER LANDSCAPE WITH SKATERS?
I THINK SHE'D HAVE LIKED AVERCAMP'S WINTER LANDSCAPE WITH SKATERS.
YEAH.
REALLY... YES, THEY DO SEEM TO BE ENJOYING THEMSELVES...
AVERCAMP WAS DEAF AND MUTE, RIGHT?
THAT'S RIGHT. AND KIND OF A FESTIVAL SCENE, YEAH?
THAT ONE DEPICTS LOTS OF KIDS ENJOYING THEMSELVES.
WHAT ABOUT FERDINAND BOL'S NOBLE CHILDREN IN A CARRIAGE PULLED BY GOATS?
BOL?
AND THEY'RE NOT IN A LINE...
BUT I DON'T THINK IT WOULD BE THIS ONE...

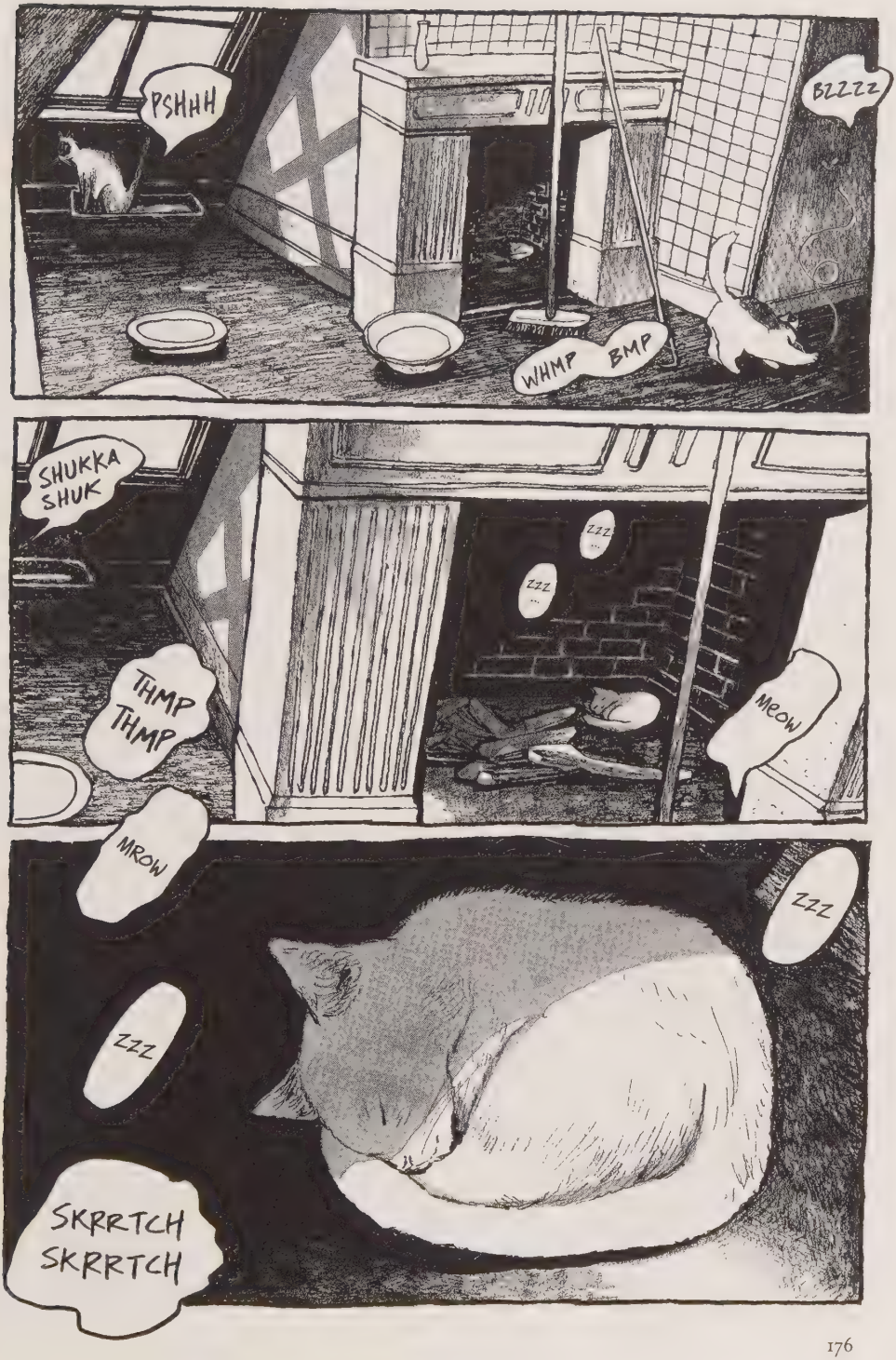

Achoo!!
It seems... I've lost my appetite...
...all the little bits, the dust of autumn...
Morning and night, the wind blows in...
Can't move like I used to...
Heh heh heh.

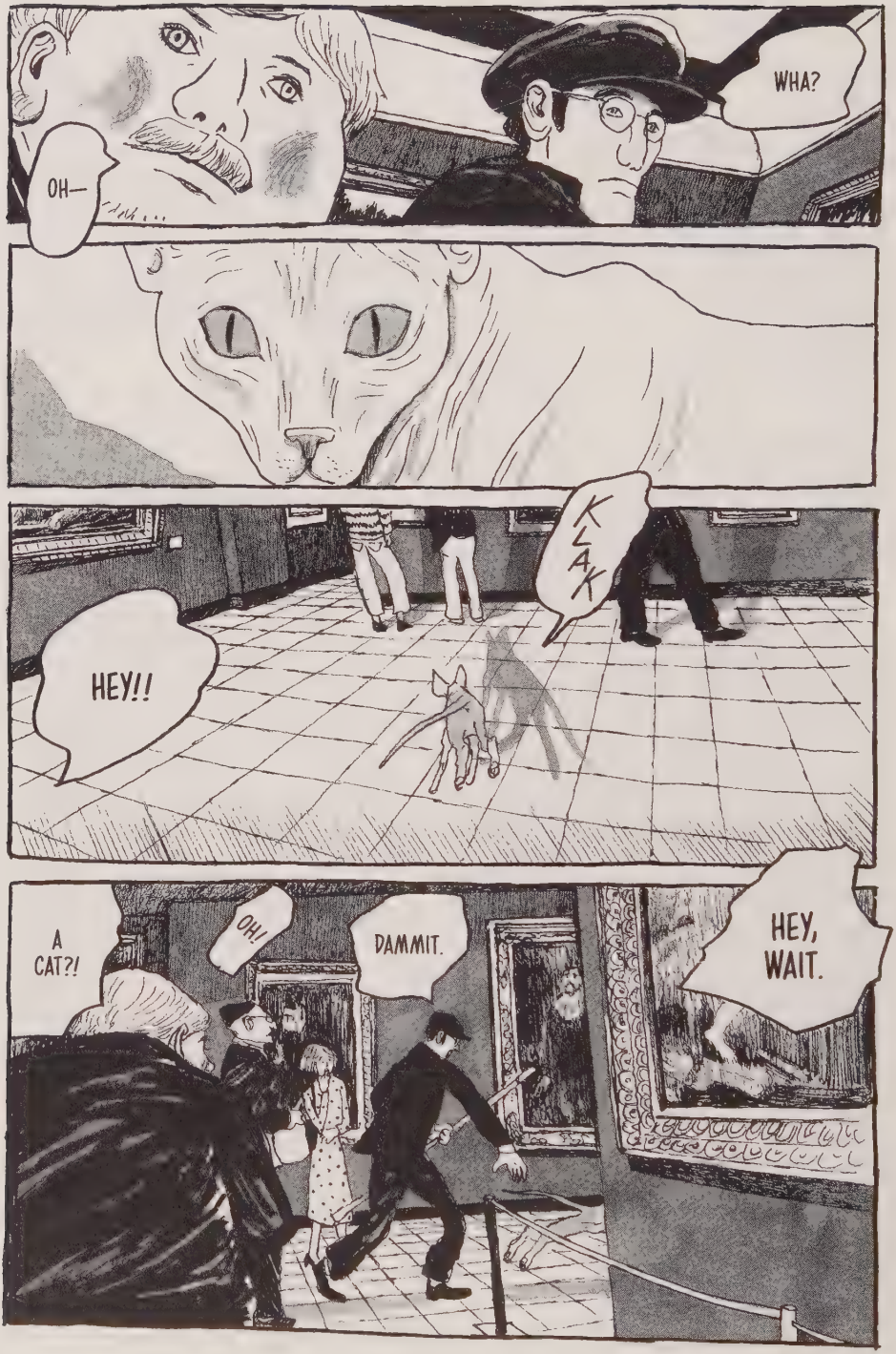
YOU'VE BEEN ACTING A LITTLE DIFFERENT THESE DAYS, CECILE.
OH, IS THAT SO?
SEEMS THAT WAY.
YES, YOU SEEM TO BE HAVING A GOOD TIME LATELY!!
YOU'VE REALLY BRIGHTENED UP.
...
IT CERTAINLY IS GETTING LATE.
OH MY...
HEYA.
EXCUSE ME, FOLKS. I'LL BE CLOSING UP SOON.


MYUM MYUM
HMPH
I JUST WANTED TO LOOK RIGHT AROUND HERE, BLUEBEARD.
JUST LET HIM GO, WILLYA...
THANKS, BON-PAPA.
BZZZ
WORM
Fah...
SKRRTCH SKRRTCH
MEOW
MYUM MYUM
THMP
THMP


SKRITCH SKRITCH
MWA HA HA HA!
HEY...
THMP THMP
MEOW
THMP THMP
MEOW MEOW
MYUM MYUM
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING, TWIGGY?
BUT THERE'S ALL THOSE PEOPLE DOWNSTAIRS, RIGHT?
AGAIN?
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
GURGLE
I'M JUST GOING TO LOOK AROUND FOR SNOWBÉBÉ.
DANGER!! DANGER!!
DAN-GER !!
...
SEE!
JUST FORGET ABOUT THE LITTLE RUNT!!
MWA HA HA HA!
IT'S DANGEROUS, TWIGGY.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?
BONJOUR.
OUI, OUI.
REALLY?
I CAN SPEAK JAPANESE WELL.
REALLY?
JAPAN.
VERY GOOD!
HA HA HA!
KONNICHI WA SAYONARA KAWAII ARIGATO.


PSHHH
BZZZZ
WHMP
BMP
SHUKKA SHUK
ZZZ
ZZZ
THMP THMP
MEOW
MROW
ZZZ
ZZZ
SKRRTCH SKRRTCH


OH—
WHA?
KLAK
HEY!!
A CAT?!
OH!
DAMMIT.
HEY, WAIT.

GRNKL GRNKL
CHEWING GUM, HERE?
DAMN ...
CERTAINLY DID...
YEP.
HAD A BIG CROWD TODAY.
CAN'T GET IT OFF... MERDE.

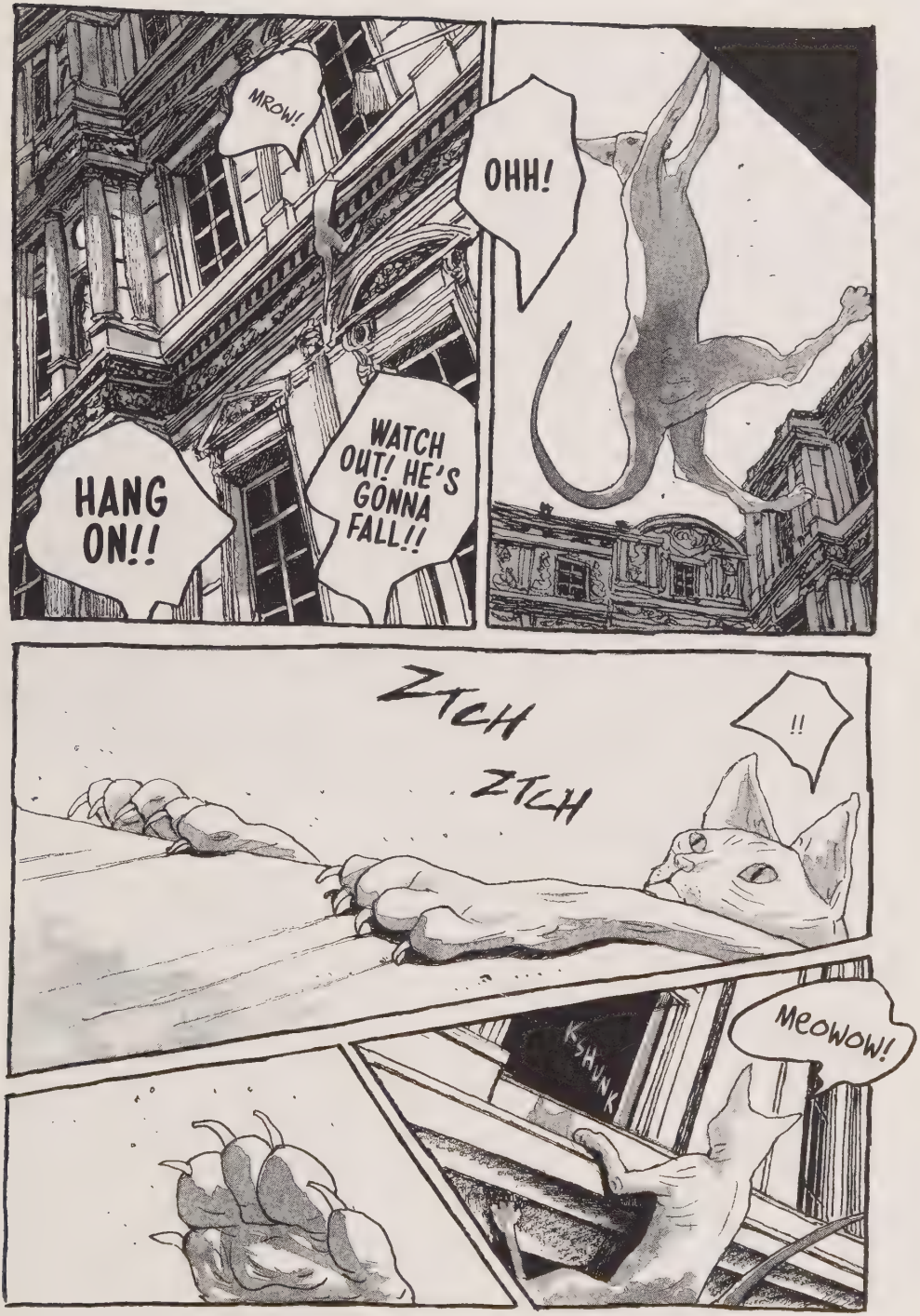
GAH!
WHAP
HE'S GOING OUTSIDE !!
HEY!
HE WENT OUT THE WINDOW !!
HFF
HFF
HFF
MEOW ...

I ♥ Paris
WHOA!
AN ANIMAL!!
WHA?!
WAIT, YOU!!
HMM?

GWOWWW...
HERE, KITTY KITTY...KITTY KITTY...
BE CAREFUL, JAKOB. DON'T DROP IT.
HEY!!
H-SSSS!
HERE, HERE, LITTLE HAIRLESS KITTY...
SLIP SLIP

WHAT IS THAT? A CAT?
HMM?
Смотрите, тамкошка! (LOOK, THERE'S A CAT OVER THERE!)
LOOK, A CAT!!
那是猫吗？ (IS THAT A CAT?)
IT'S HAIRLESS— IS IT A SPHINX?
HEY, HEY, WHERE'D IT COME FROM?

AHHH!
WHAT'S THE COMMOTION?
HUH?


MROW!
HANG ON!!
WATCH OUT! HE'S GONNA FALL!!
OHH!
ZTCH
ZTCH
!!
KSHUNK
MEOWOW!

ANYONE GOT A LEASH?
WHOA, THIS ONE'S VICIOUS.
HSSHAA!
Oh man, it's the hairless one!
YEAH, OVER HERE!
YES!
THAT'S MY CAT!!
HE'S MINE!!

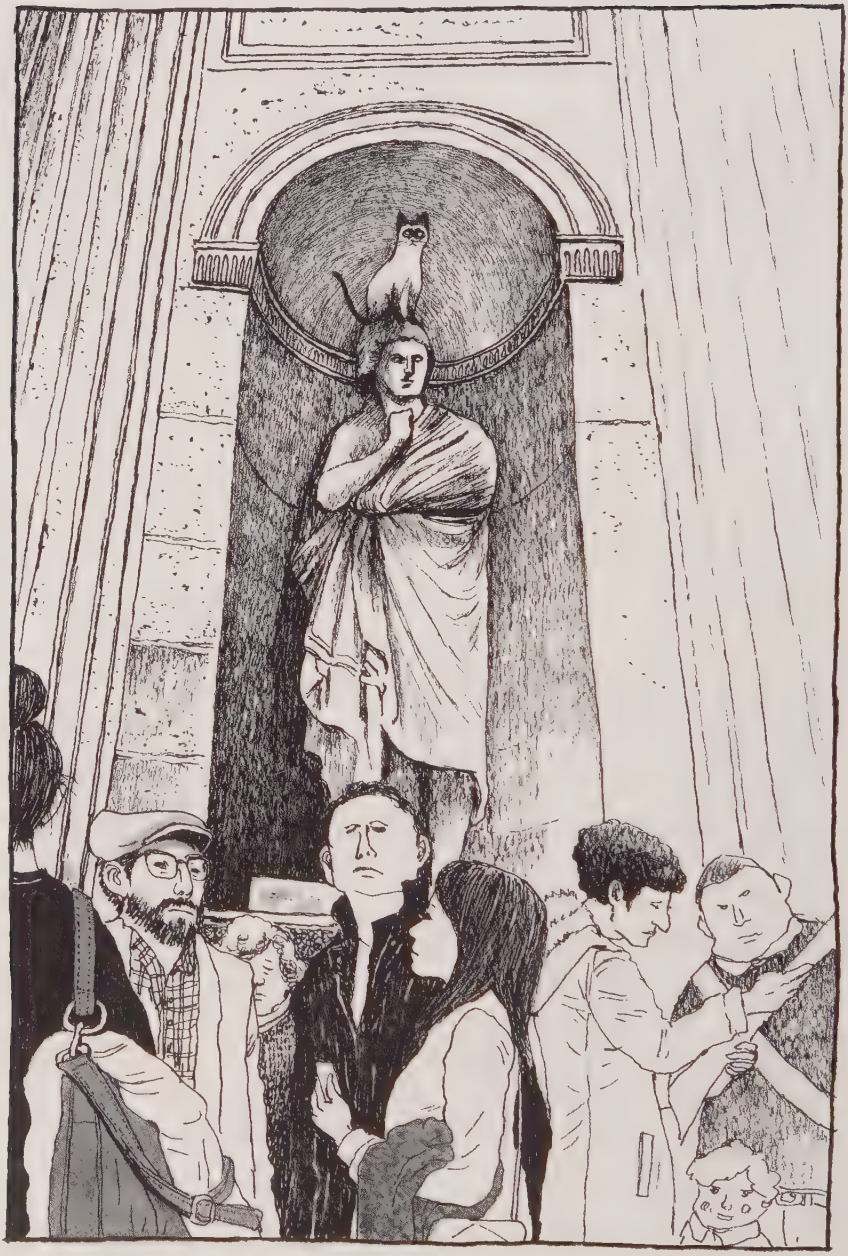
WE SHOULD CALL THE INFIRMARY.
OH... HIS LEG'S BROKEN...
HSSSHAA!
WAH!
CAN'T BELIEVE IT SURVIVED A FALL LIKE THAT.
WHAT KINDA CAT IS THAT?
?!
WHAT?
THERE'S A CAT RUNNING LOOSE...
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
SUCH A RUCKUS...
I CAN'T SEEEE!
LET ME THROUGH!
EXCUSE ME...
OH.

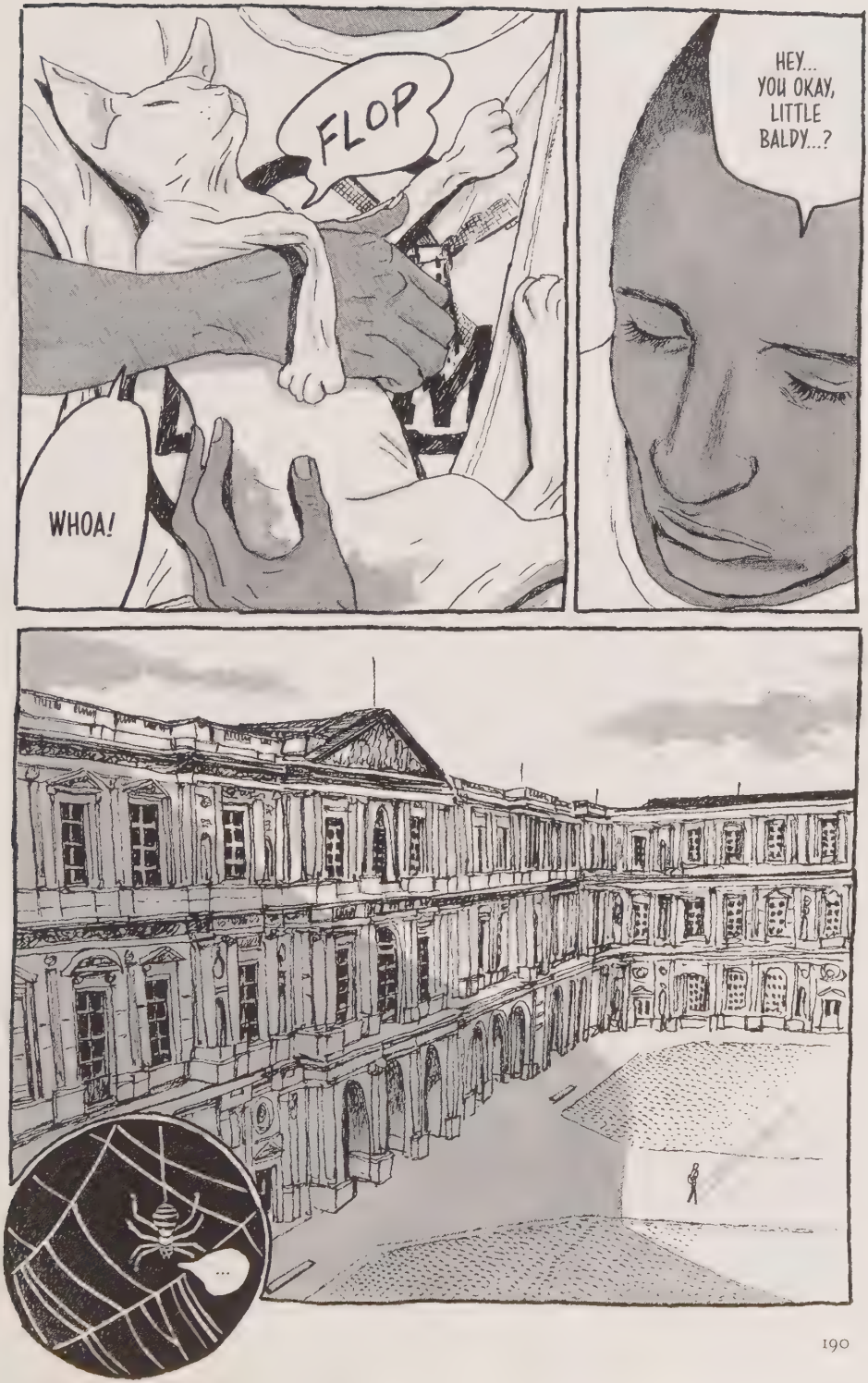
I wonder if Marcel meant something like The Temptation Of St. Anthony...
UH, MADEMOISELLE CÉCILE...
But why on earth would a six-year-old girl want to spend her life inside this picture?
I doubt she would...
IF IT'S ALL RIGHT, I'LL BE CLOSING UP SOON...
Hrmm...

SKRRAK
SKRAAK
SKRAAK
ZZZ
ZZZ
MEOW
ZZZ...
SNIFF
SNIFF

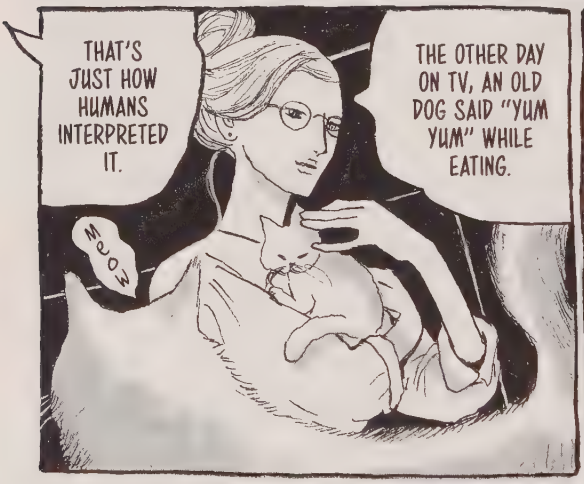
CHAPTER 9

The Secret on the Roof

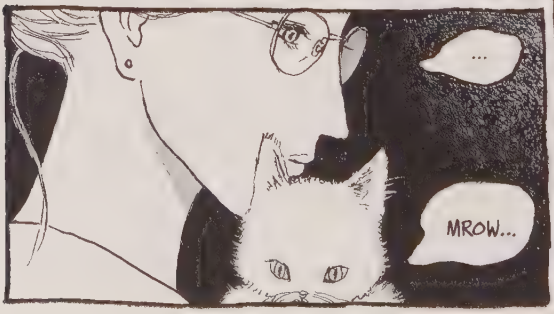


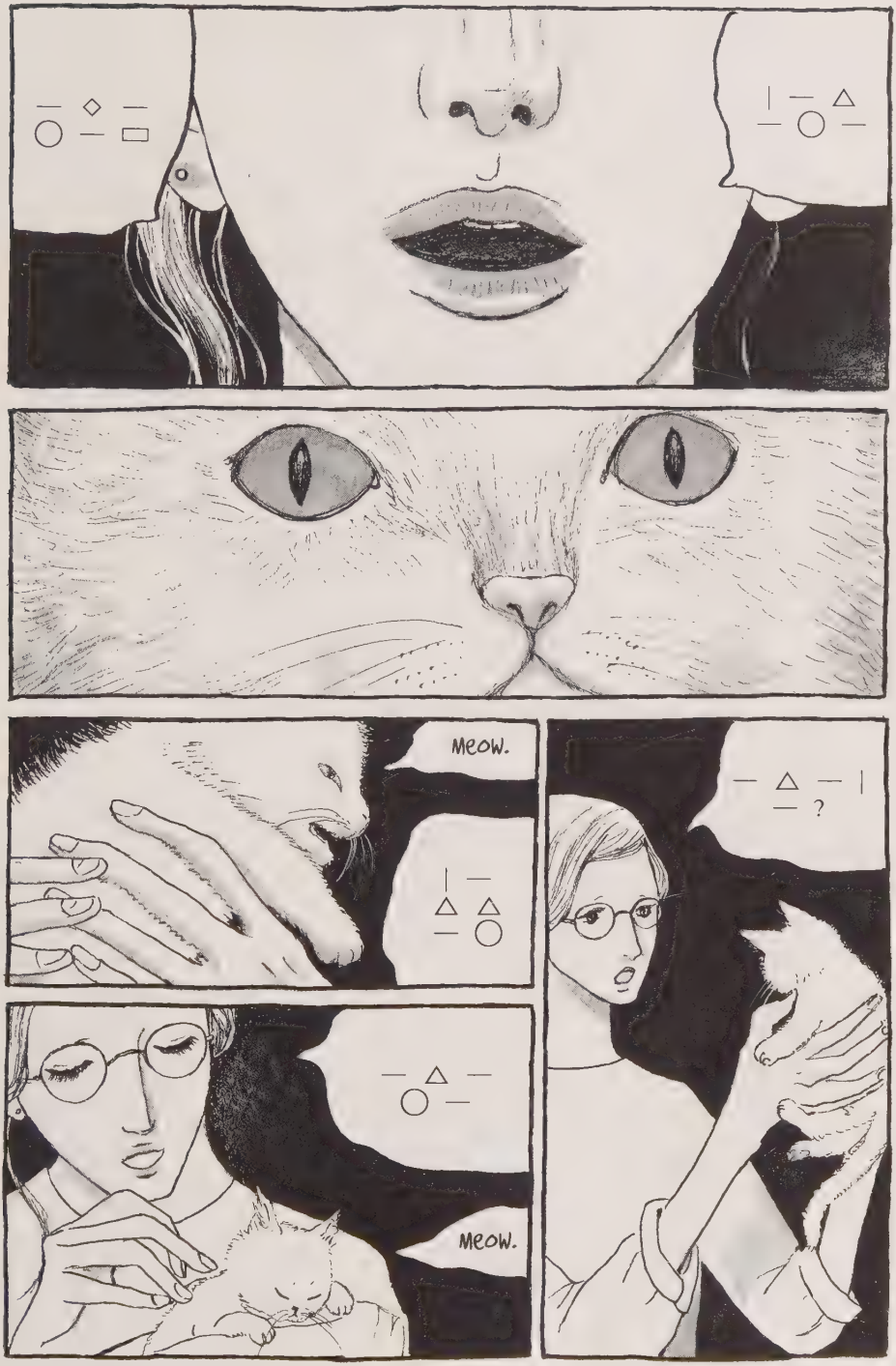

FLOP
WHOA!
HEY... YOU OKAY, LITTLE BALDY...?
...

I DON'T THINK THAT'S GOING TO WORK...
WHAT?
PURRR
MEOW
MUNCH MUNCH


THAT'S JUST HOW HUMANS INTERPRETED IT.
THE OTHER DAY ON TV, AN OLD DOG SAID "YUM YUM" WHILE EATING.
MEOW

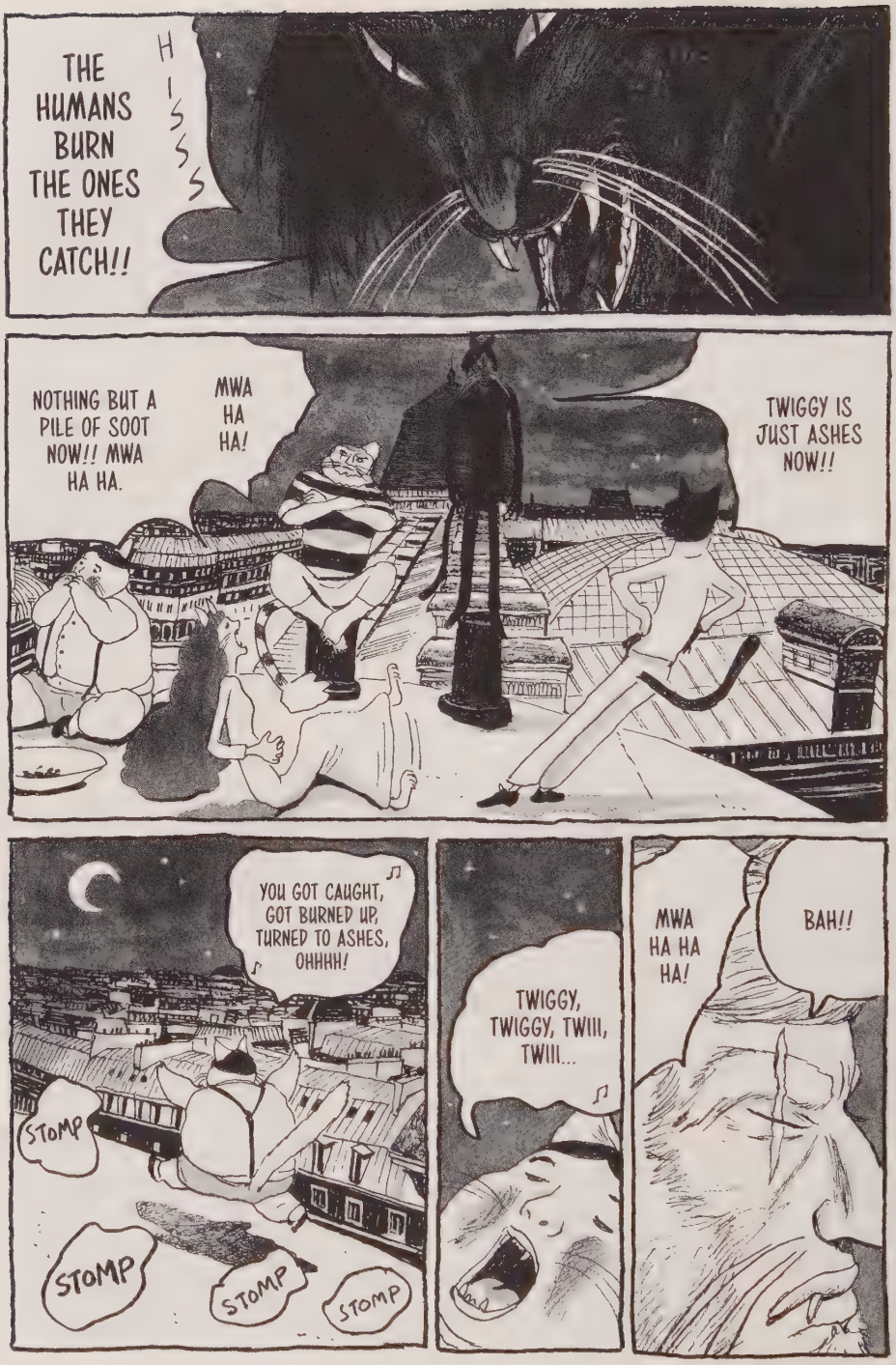
THERE'S NO POINT IN TRYING TO EXPLAIN TO THEM...
OH. WELL... THEY UNDERSTAND IF YOU SPEAK TO THEM SERIOUSLY.
PURRR

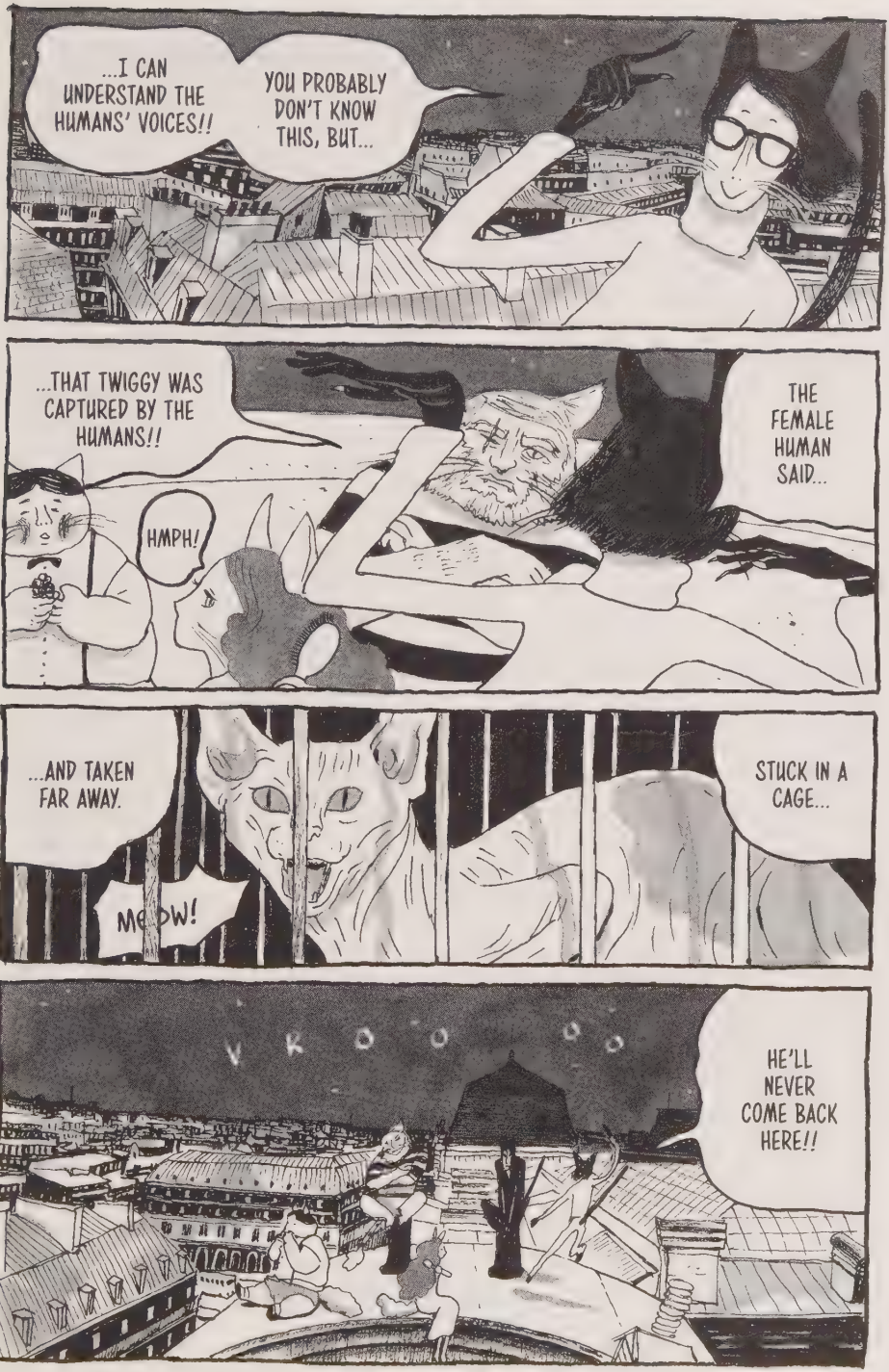

...
MROW...

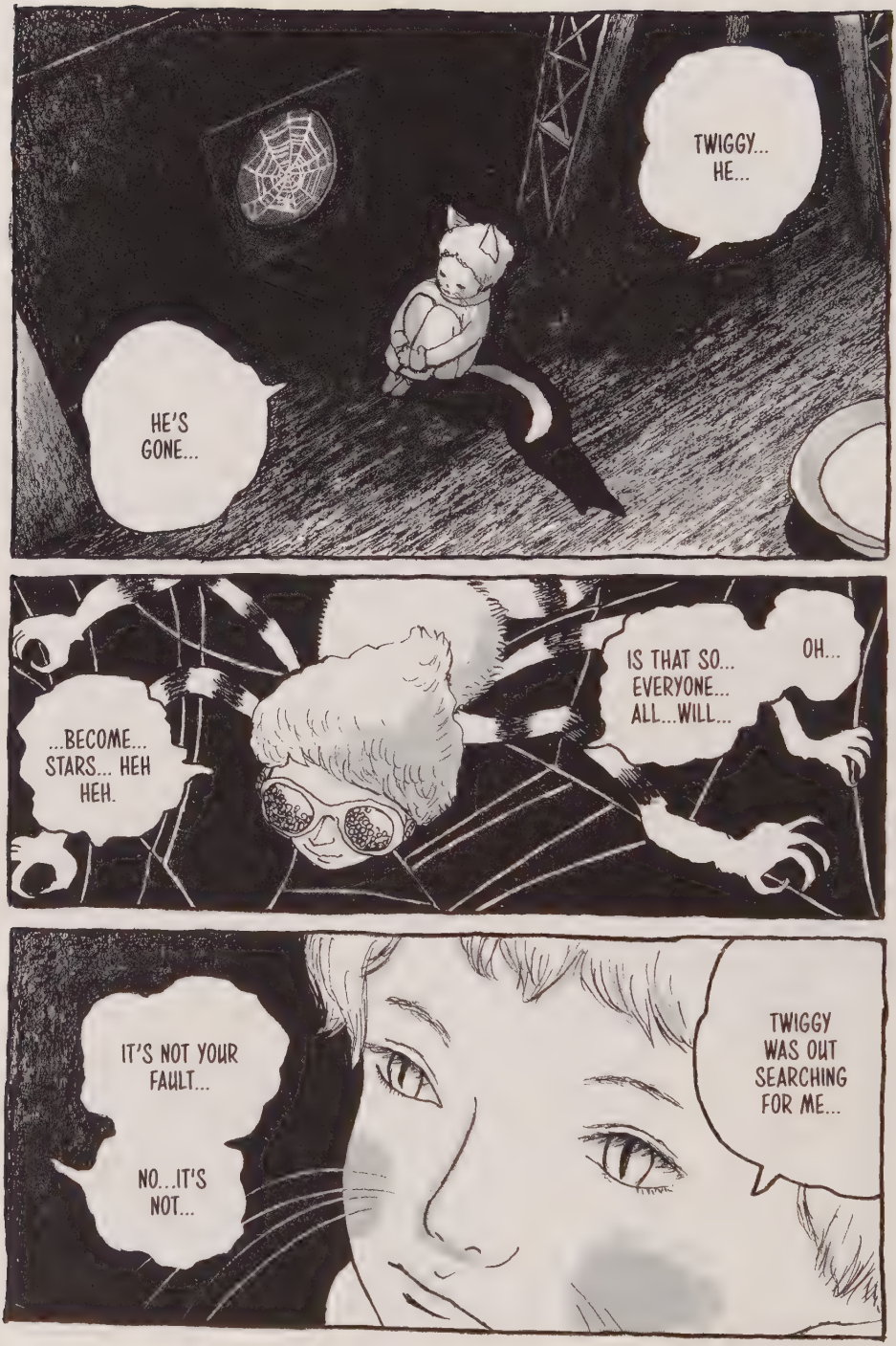

MEOW.
MEOW.

MM...
LET'S GO NOW, MARCEL.
I REALLY SHOULD HAVE WORN ANOTHER LAYER.
...
IT'S GOTTEN COOL IN THE MORNINGS AND EVENINGS.
VROOOOOO

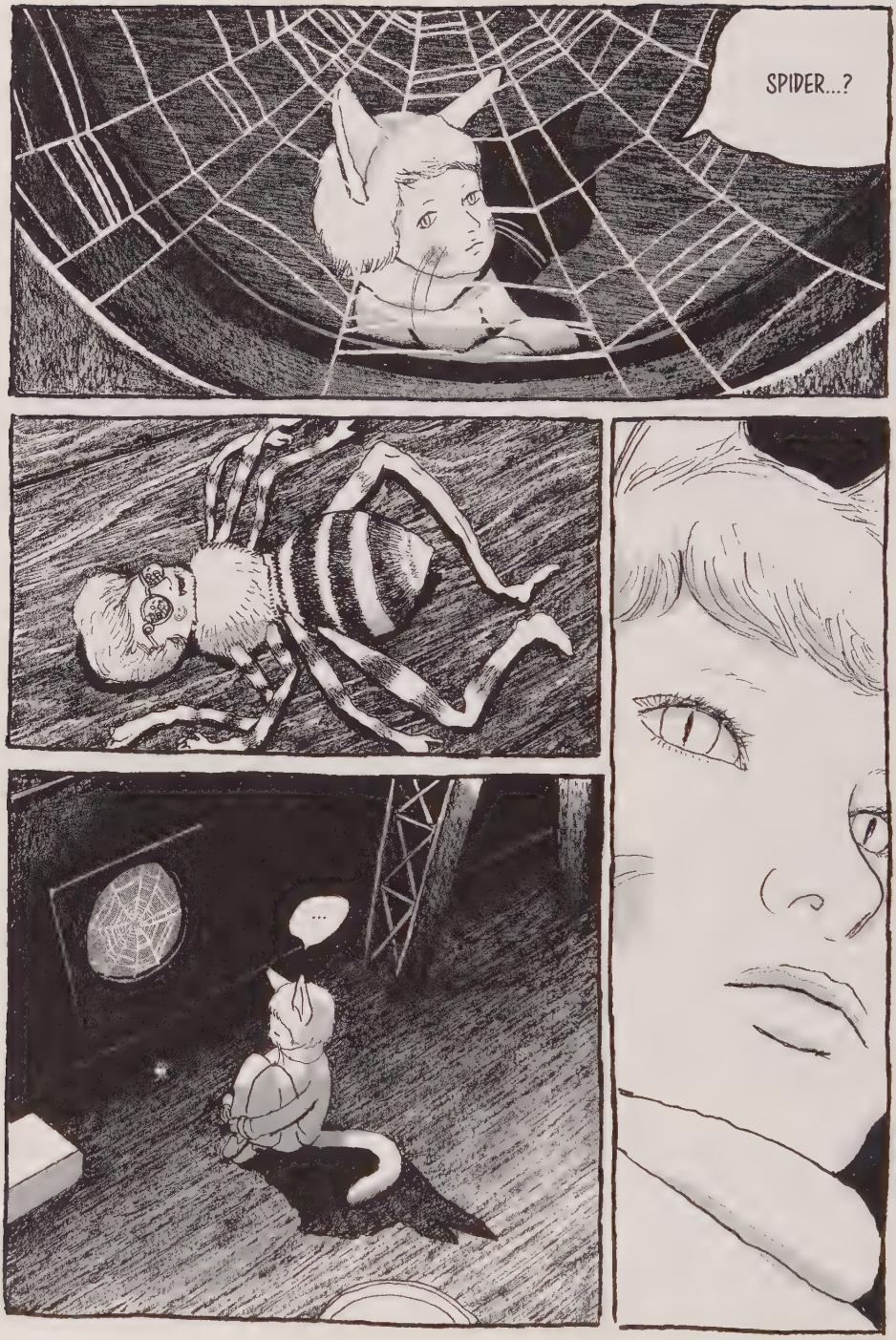
...THIS GUY HERE SAVED HIM.
...
LISTEN UP, LITTLE WHITEY. YOUR HAIRLESS FRIEND FELL FROM HIGH UP, BUT...
meow.
MAKING FUN OF ME NOW?
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE AN ADULT, CÉCILE, YOU SAY SOME THINGS...
NO, I MEAN IT IN A GOOD WAY.
...
He's lost some weight...
meow.
GOT THAT?
DON'T WORRY—YOUR FRIEND'S IN THE HOSPITAL NOW.

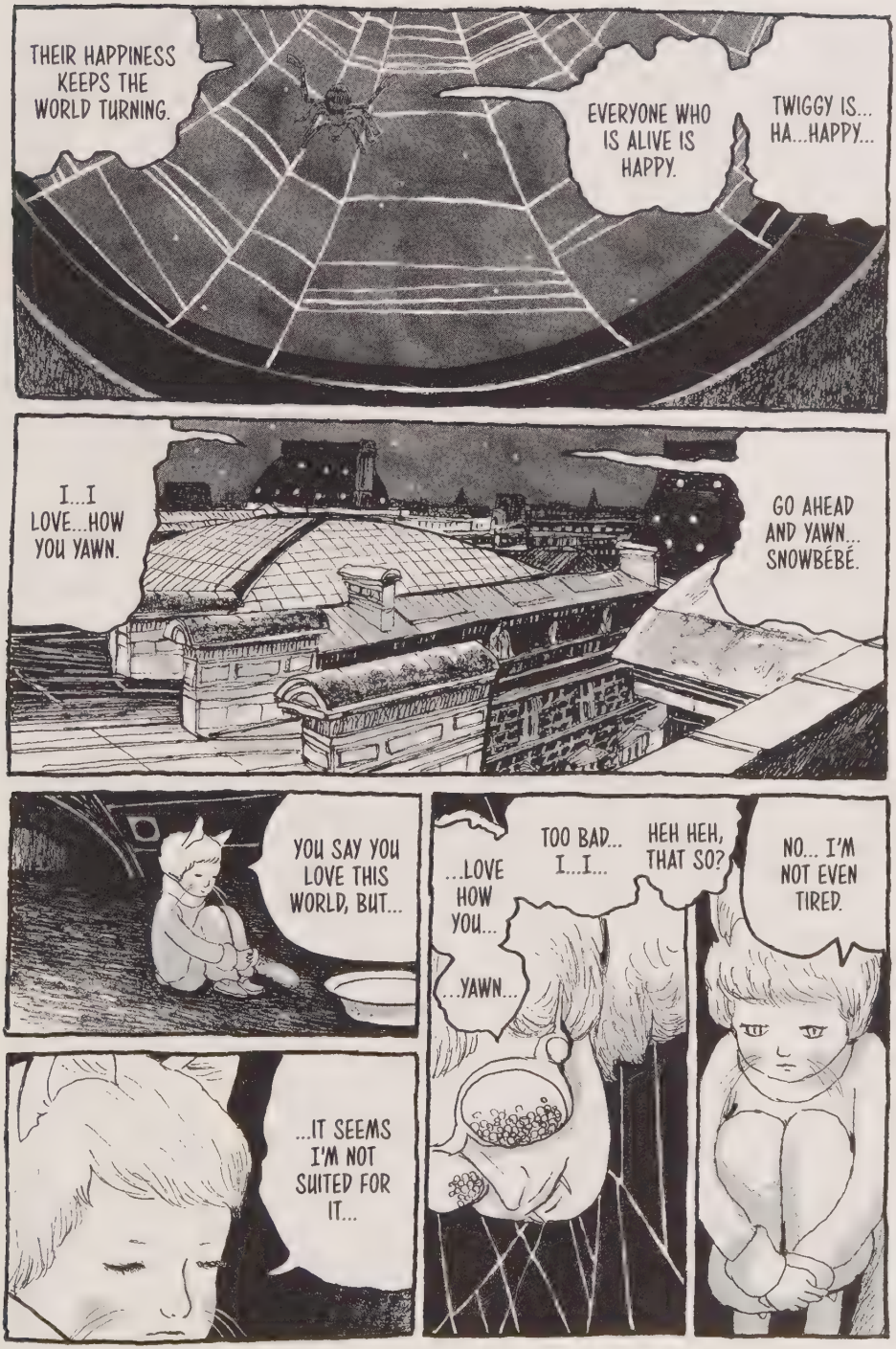

THE HUMANS BURN THE ONES THEY CATCH!!
HISSS
NOTHING BUT A PILE OF SOOT NOW!! MWA HA HA.
MWA HA HA!
TWIGGY IS JUST ASHES NOW!!
YOU GOT CAUGHT, GOT BURNED UP, TURNED TO ASHES, OHHHH!
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
TWIGGY, TWIGGY, TWIII, TWIII...
MWA HA HA HA!
BAH!!


...I CAN UNDERSTAND THE HUMANS' VOICES!!
YOU PROBABLY DON'T KNOW THIS, BUT...
...THAT TWIGGY WAS CAPTURED BY THE HUMANS!!
HMPH!
THE FEMALE HUMAN SAID...
...AND TAKEN FAR AWAY.
ME OW!
STUCK IN A CAGE...
VROOOOOO
HE'LL NEVER COME BACK HERE!!

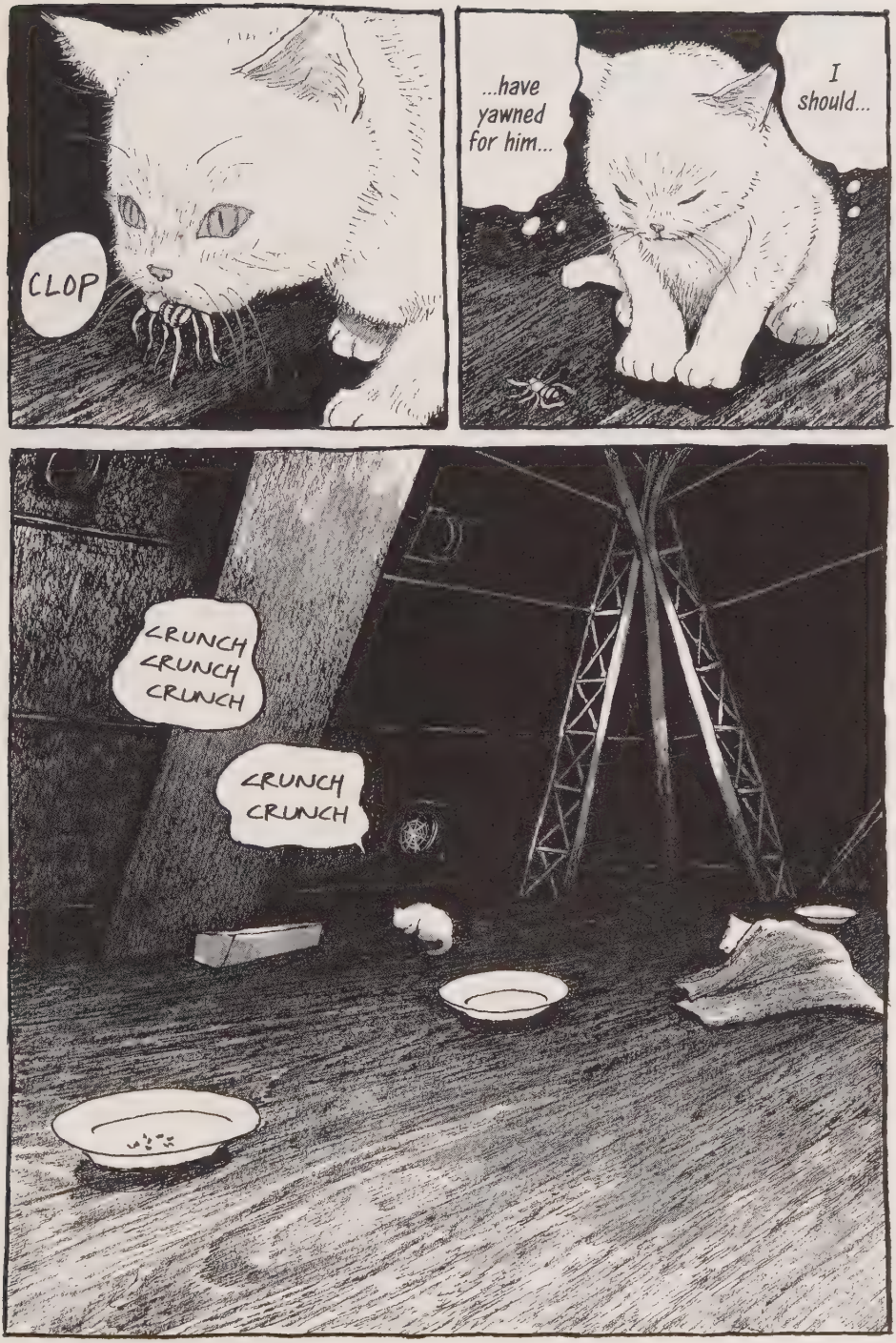

TWIGGY... HE...
HE'S GONE...
OH...
IS THAT SO... EVERYONE... ALL...WILL...
...BECOME... STARS... HEH HEH.
TWIGGY WAS OUT SEARCHING FOR ME...
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT...
NO...IT'S NOT...

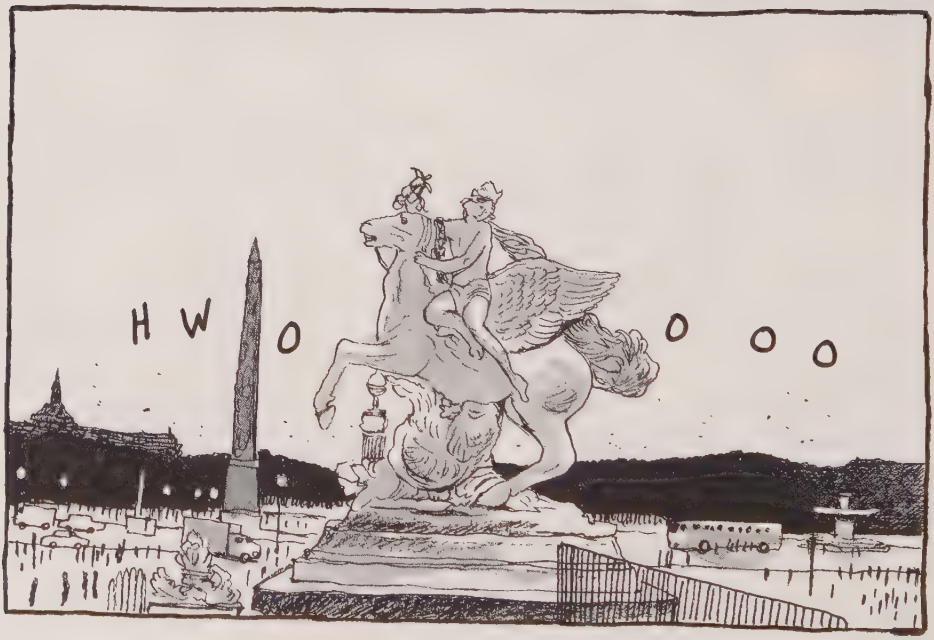
That's what we get for letting Snowbébé live among us...
TURNED TO ASHES, OHHH!
BLACKENED, BURNED BLACK, BOH BOH BOOOH!
HA HA HA!
MWA HA HA HA!
He invites danger...
STOMP
BOH BOOOH!
NYA HA HA HA!
OHHHH!
TURNED TO SOOT!
STOMP
HA HA HA!
TWIGGY, TWIGGY, TWIII, TWIII!
STOMP
STOMP
I AM SO VERY SAD!
We'll all be ashes if we allow him to live with us...
SHUT UP!!
...
NYA HA HA!


SPIDER...?
...


THEIR HAPPINESS KEEPS THE WORLD TURNING.
EVERYONE WHO IS ALIVE IS HAPPY.
TWIGGY IS... HA...HAPPY...
I...I LOVE...HOW YOU YAWN.
GO AHEAD AND YAWN... SNOWBÉBÉ.
YOU SAY YOU LOVE THIS WORLD, BUT...
...IT SEEMS I'M NOT SUITED FOR IT...
...LOVE HOW YOU...
...YAWN...
TOO BAD... I...I...
HEH HEH, THAT SO?
NO... I'M NOT EVEN TIRED.

ZSHAAA
DO YOU ALL KNOW WHO JOAN OF ARC WAS?
THIS PICTURE OF JOAN OF ARC WAS PAINTED BY INGRES.
A WARRIOR!!
SHE WAS ON TV THE OTHER DAY.
I KNOW!!

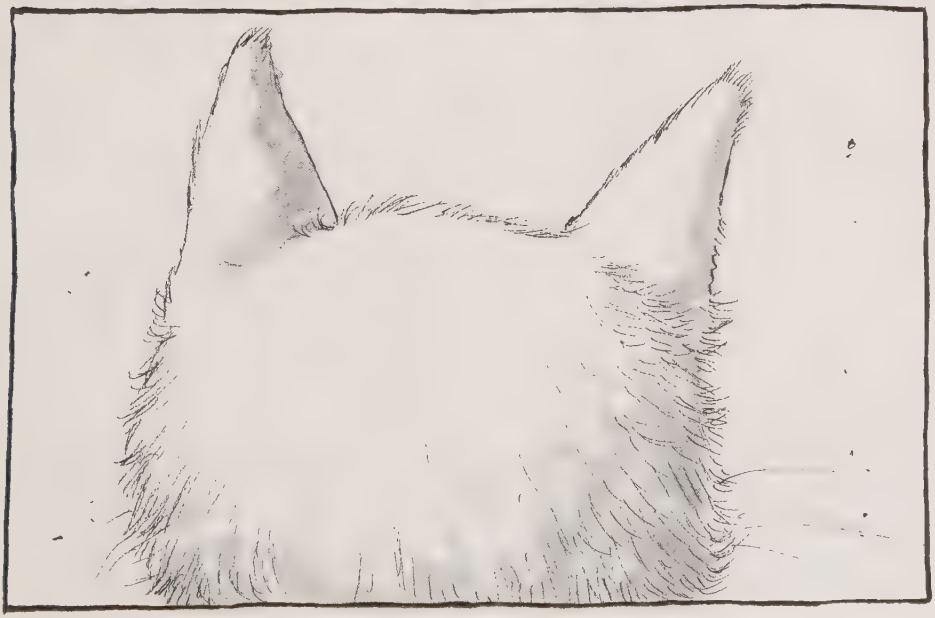

CLOP
...have yawned for him...
I should...
CRUNCH CRUNCH CRUNCH
CRUNCH CRUNCH

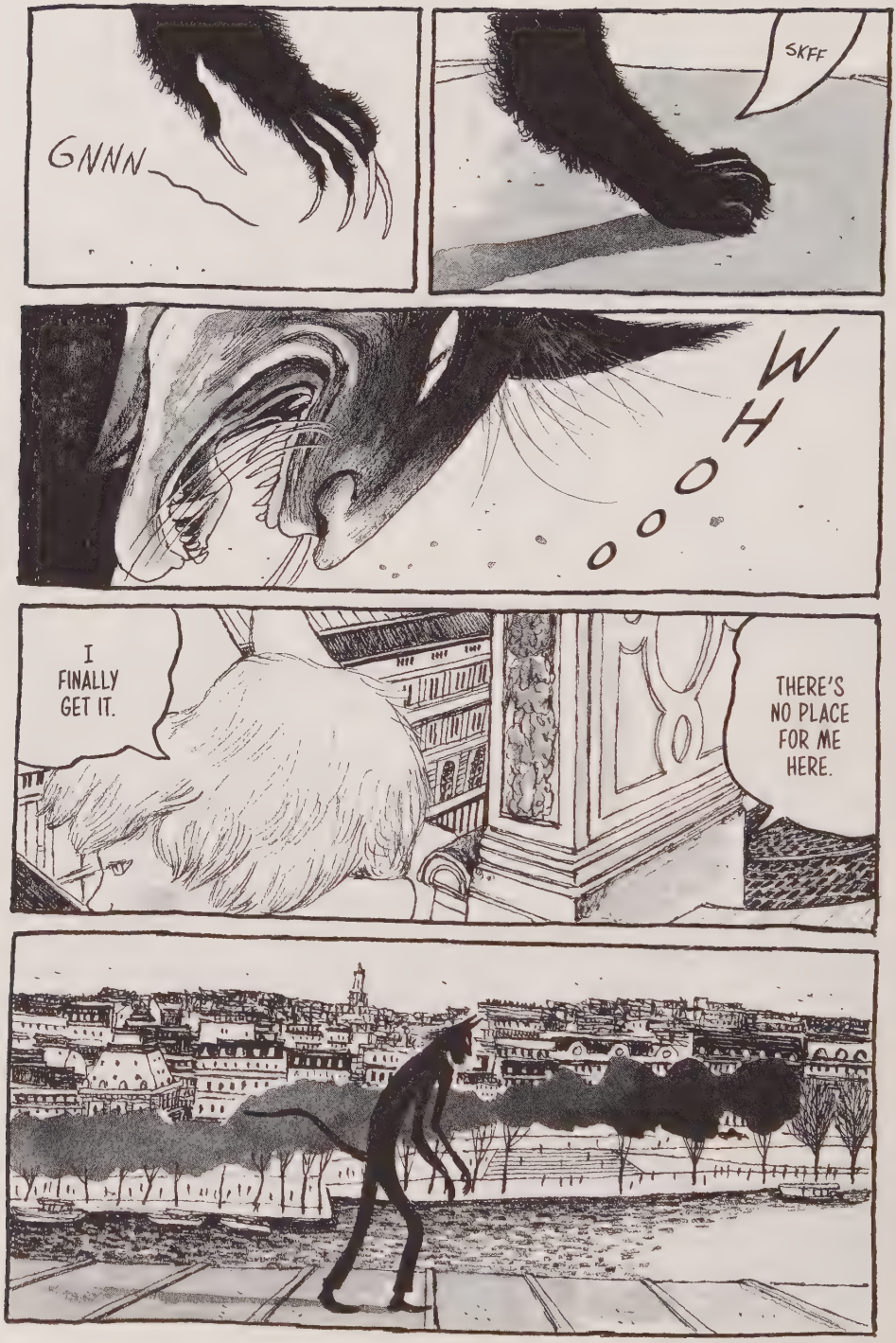

H W O O O O

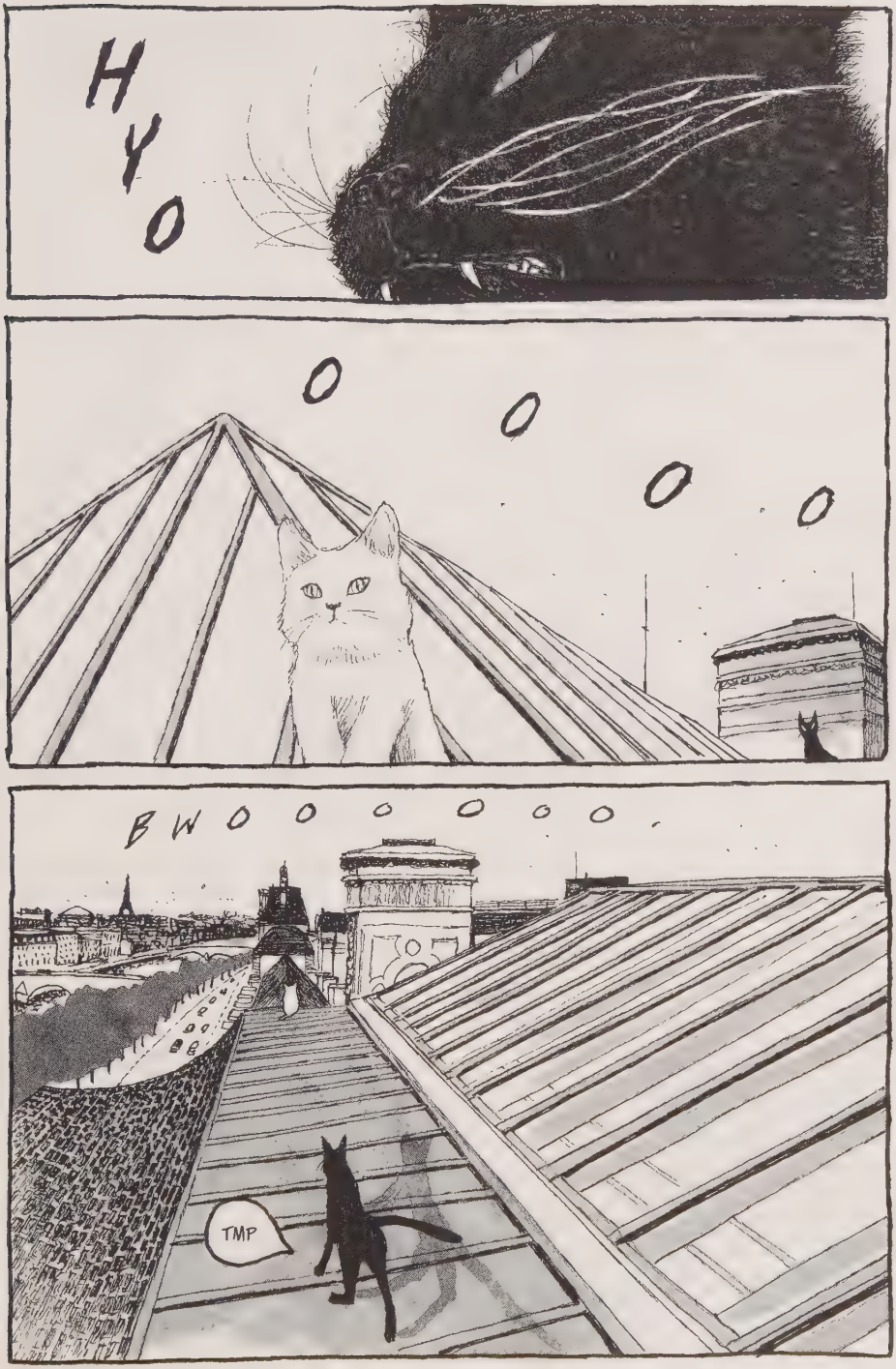
YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO TOUCH IT!
I KNOW THIS PICTURE.
...
MY FEET HURT!
I'M HUNGRY!
HMMM.
SO, KIDS, IF YOU COULD ACTUALLY LIVE INSIDE A PAINTING, WHAT KIND OF PICTURE WOULD YOU CHOOSE?
I DON'T LIKE THE REALLY GORY ONES.
HA HA HA HA HA!
I WANT THE ONE WITH ALL THE FOOD!
NICE.
THE ONE WITH THE WOMAN IN THE DRESS!!

NOM
NOM
NOM NOM
OF COURSE! LATELY YOU'VE BEEN EATING ALL OF SNOWBÉBÉ'S FOOD AND GETTING VERY PLUMP!!
BUT... WELL...IT WAS HERE, SO...
HMPH.
THAT'S SNOWBÉBÉ'S, ISN'T IT?
OH, FATCAT...
...
OH...
CHOMP
YOWL!
MEOW
ANYTIME NOW THE HUMANS WILL CATCH HIM AND TURN HIM TO SOOT, MWA HA HA HA!
MEOW
WHO KNOWS! NOT US!!
NO DOUBT DOWN THERE WITH THE PAINT-INGS.
WHERE DID HE GO ANYWAY?

AUTUMN




GNNN
SKFF
WHOOOO
I FINALLY GET IT.
THERE'S NO PLACE FOR ME HERE.

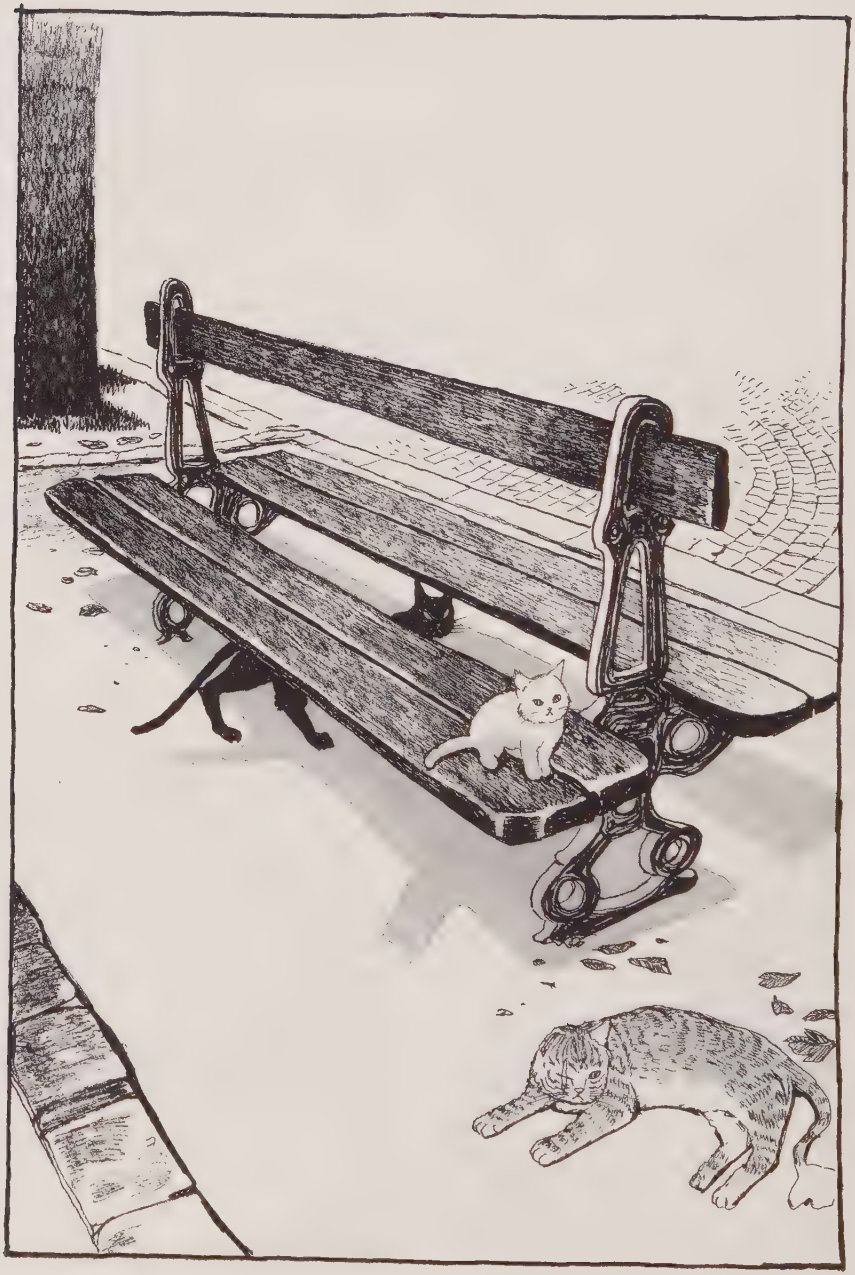

HYO
O O O O
BWOOOOOOO.
TMP

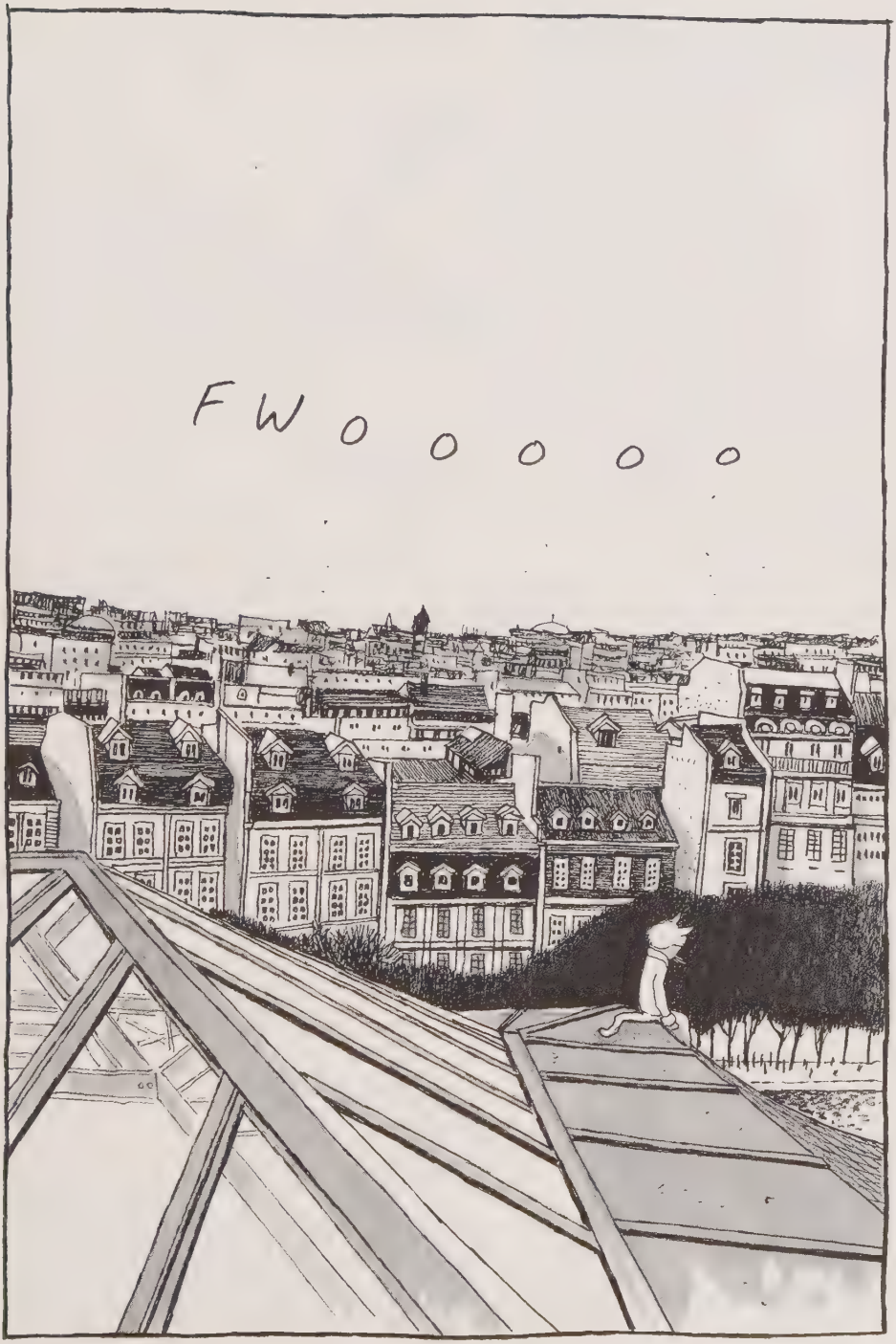
JUST SO TIRED...
WHOOOO
HYOOOOO
...

I JUST DON'T WANT IT TO HURT LIKE LAST TIME.
GO ON, DO IT—ONCE AND FOR ALL.
FWOO OO
THAT'S WHY I WON'T RUN FROM YOU ANYMORE, SAWTOOTH.
HYOOOOO
I'M READY NOW...
...
I'M SO TIRED.

CHAPTER 10

The Secret of the Night Watchman's Coffee




FWOOOOOO

KEEP THE NOISE DOWN, KIDS!
HRRO
...
MWA HA HA!
OOO
OM
Oh...

HEY, WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING, KIDS!
SKRI-I-I
PSSSH
HA HA HA!
HA HA HA!
COME ON, EVERYONE, LINE UP.
NO FOOLING AROUND NOW, ADAM.
GYA HA HA HA HA HA!
KTUNK